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LAVENDER Volume 20, Issue 509

Holiday Gift Guide & Lav.fash™

November 27-December 10, 2014

# LAVENDER®

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# Holiday Gift Guide & Lav.fash™

509 LAVENDERMAGAZINE.COM
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NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 10, 2014

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TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds. It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

In SINGLE, a clinical study with 833 patients who had never taken HIV treatment before:

- **More patients got to undetectable (less than 50 copies of HIV-1 RNA in a milliliter of blood) with TIVICAY 50 mg once daily and abacavir sulfate + lamivudine than with Atripla.®** In the study, 88% of patients who took TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine were undetectable vs 81% of patients taking Atripla at 48 weeks.

  Patients who took TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine had an average CD4 cell count (CD4 cells are T-cells that help fight infections) increase of 267 cells/mm$^3$ (the number of CD4 cells per cubic millimeter of blood) vs 208 cells/mm$^3$ in patients who took Atripla at 48 weeks.
- **Fewer patients stopped taking TIVICAY due to side effects.** In the study, 2% of patients taking TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine stopped taking medication due to side effects vs 10% of patients taking Atripla. The most common mild side effect for patients on TIVICAY was trouble sleeping—affecting 7% of patients on TIVICAY and 3% of patients on Atripla. The most common medium to severe side effects for patients on TIVICAY were trouble sleeping—affecting 3% of patients on TIVICAY and 2% of patients on Atripla; and headache—affecting 2% of patients on TIVICAY and 2% of patients on Atripla.

In SPRING-2, a clinical study with 822* patients who had never taken HIV treatment before:

- **It was shown that TIVICAY† worked as well as raltegravir† in getting patients to undetectable (less than 50 copies of HIV-1 RNA in a milliliter of blood).** 88% of patients who took TIVICAY† were undetectable vs 86% of patients taking raltegravir† at 48 weeks.

  About half of the patients who took TIVICAY† or raltegravir† had a CD4 cell count increase of at least 230 cells/mm$^3$ (the number of CD4 cells per cubic millimeter of blood) at 48 weeks. The other half had increases of 230 cells/mm$^3$ or less.
- **Few patients stopped taking medication due to side effects.** 2% of patients taking TIVICAY† stopped taking medication due to side effects vs 2% of patients taking raltegravir.† The most common mild side effect for patients on TIVICAY was trouble sleeping—affecting 1% of patients on TIVICAY and less than 1% of patients on raltegravir. The most common medium to severe side effect for patients on TIVICAY was nausea—affecting 1% of patients on TIVICAY and 1% of patients on raltegravir.

*808 patients were included in the study results.

†Taken with either abacavir sulfate/lamivudine or emtricitabine/tenofovir.

**Your results could vary.**
**Ask your healthcare provider if TIVICAY is right for you.**

## What is TIVICAY?

TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds. HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

**TIVICAY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control the HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

### Who should not take TIVICAY?

- **Do not take TIVICAY if you take dofetilide because of a life-threatening interaction.**

### What are the most serious side effects of TIVICAY?

- **Allergic reactions. Stop taking TIVICAY and get medical help right away if you have:**
  - **A rash with any of these symptoms:** fever; general ill feeling; extreme tiredness; muscle or joint aches; blisters or sores in your mouth; blisters or peeling of your skin; redness or swelling in your eyes; swelling of your mouth, face, lips or tongue; problems breathing.
  - **Any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:** yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes; dark or tea-colored urine; pale-colored stools (bowel movements); nausea or vomiting; loss of appetite; pain, aching, or tenderness on your right side below the ribs.
- **Changes in liver tests.** People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with TIVICAY. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your liver function before and during treatment with TIVICAY.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicines, including increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system** can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

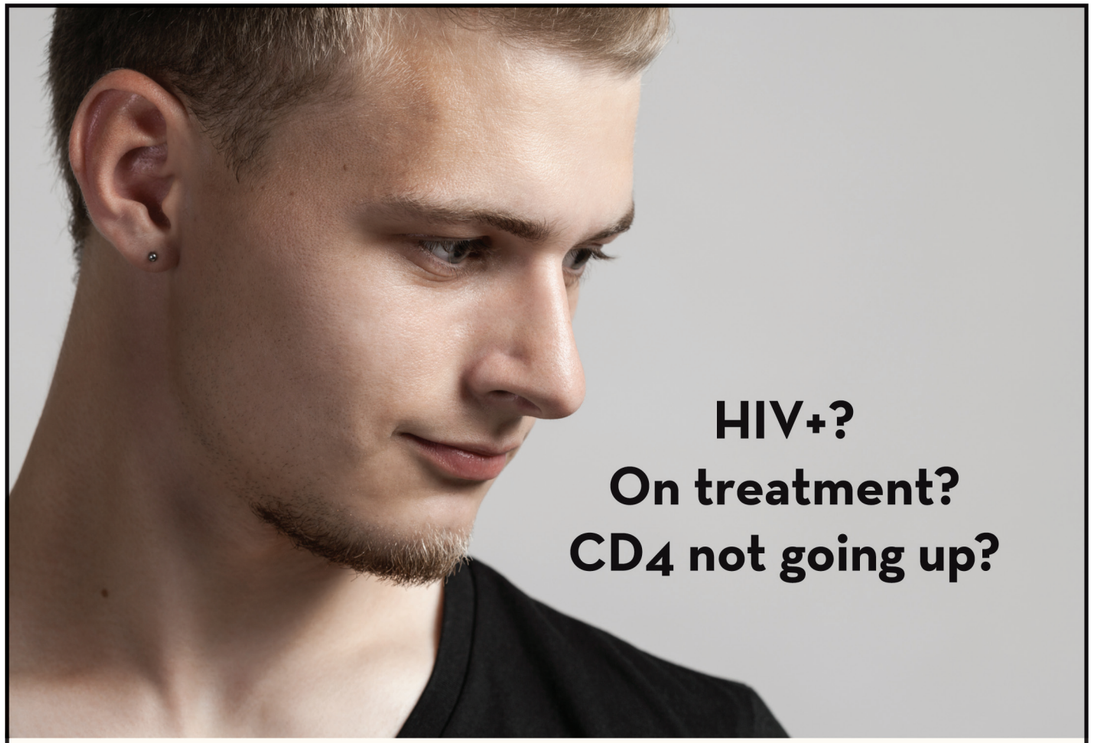
### What are the other possible side effects of TIVICAY?

- The most common side effects of TIVICAY include trouble sleeping and headache.

Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of TIVICAY.

**Important Safety Information continued on next page.**


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true to you

**What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take TIVICAY?**

**Before taking TIVICAY, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have ever had an allergic reaction to TIVICAY
- have or had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C
- have any other medical condition
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TIVICAY will harm your unborn baby
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed** if you take TIVICAY. You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby. It is not known if TIVICAY passes into your breast milk. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements you take.**

TIVICAY and other medicines may affect each other, causing side effects. TIVICAY may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how TIVICAY works.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- other HIV-1 medicines including: efavirenz (SUSTIVA®), etravirine (INTELENCE®), fosamprenavir (LEXIVA®)/ritonavir (NORVIR®), nevirapine (VIRAMUNE®), or tipranavir (APTIVUS®)/ritonavir (NORVIR).
- antacids or laxatives that contain aluminum, magnesium, sucralfate (CARAFATE®), or buffered medicines. TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- iron or calcium supplements. Supplements including multivitamins containing calcium or iron may be taken at the same time with TIVICAY if taken with food. Otherwise, TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- anti-seizure medicines: oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL®), phenytoin (DILANTIN®, DILANTIN®-125, PHENYTEK®), phenobarbital (LUMINAL®), carbamazepine (CARBATROL®, EQUETRO®, TEGRETOL®, TEGRETOL®-XR, TERIL®, EPITOL®)
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- a medicine that contains metformin
- rifampin (RIFATER®, RIFAMATE®, RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®)

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

**Please see Patient Information for TIVICAY on the next pages and discuss it with your healthcare provider.**

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ViiV Healthcare

## PATIENT INFORMATION

**TIVICAY®** (TIV-eh-kay) **(dolutegravir) Tablets**

Read this Patient Information before you start taking TIVICAY and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

**What is TIVICAY?**

TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) infections in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds.

HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children under 12 years of age or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

**When used with other HIV-1 medicines to treat HIV-1 infection, TIVICAY may help:**

- Reduce the amount of HIV-1 in your blood. This is called "viral load."
- Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4+ (T) cells in your blood, which help fight off other infections.
- Reduce the amount of HIV-1 and increase the CD4+ (T) cells in your blood which may help improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or getting infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

**TIVICAY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

**Avoid doing things that can spread HIV-1 infection to others.**

- Do not share or re-use needles or other injection equipment.
- Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades.
- Do not have any kind of sex without protection. Always practice safe sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

**Who should not take TIVICAY?**

**Do not take TIVICAY if you take dofetilide. Taking TIVICAY and dofetilide can cause side effects that may be life-threatening.**

**What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TIVICAY?**

**Before you take TIVICAY, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have ever had an allergic reaction to TIVICAY
- have or had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C infection
- have any other medical condition
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TIVICAY will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking TIVICAY.

  **Pregnancy Registry.** There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of the registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed if you take TIVICAY.**
  - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
  - It is not known if TIVICAY passes into your breast milk.
  - Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

**Tell your healthcare provider about the medicines you take,** including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements**.**

TIVICAY and other medicines may affect each other causing side effects. TIVICAY may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how TIVICAY works.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- other HIV-1 medicines including: efavirenz (SUSTIVA®), etravirine (INTELENCE®), fosamprenavir (LEXIVA®)/ritonavir (NORVIR®), nevirapine (VIRAMUNE®), or tipranavir (APTIVUS®)/ritonavir (NORVIR).
- antacids or laxatives that contain aluminum, magnesium, sucralfate (CARAFATE®), or buffered medicines. TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- iron or calcium supplements. Supplements including multivitamins containing calcium or iron may be taken at the same time with TIVICAY if taken with food. Otherwise, TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- anti-seizure medicines:
  - oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL®)
  - phenytoin (DILANTIN®, DILANTIN®-125, PHENYTEK®)
  - phenobarbital (LUMINAL®)
  - carbamazepine (CARBATROL®, EQUETRO®, TEGRETOL®, TEGRETOL®-XR, TERIL®, EPITOL®)
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- a medicine that contains metformin
- rifampin (RIFATER®, RIFAMATE®, RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®)

Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one that is listed above.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

**How should I take TIVICAY?**

- Take TIVICAY exactly as your healthcare provider tells you.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking TIVICAY without talking with your healthcare provider.
- Stay under the care of a healthcare provider while taking TIVICAY.
- You can take TIVICAY with or without food.
- If you miss a dose of TIVICAY, take it as soon as you remember. If it is within 4 hours of your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time. If you are not sure about your dosing, call your healthcare provider.
- If you take too much TIVICAY, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.
- Do not run out of TIVICAY. The virus in your blood may become resistant to other HIV-1 medicines if TIVICAY is stopped for even a short time. When your supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy.

**What are the possible side effects of TIVICAY?**

**TIVICAY may cause serious side effects, including:**

- **Allergic reactions.** Call your healthcare provider right away if you develop a rash with TIVICAY**. Stop taking TIVICAY and get medical help right away if you**:
  - **develop a rash with any of the following signs or symptoms**
    - fever
    - generally ill feeling
    - extreme tiredness
    - muscle or joint aches
    - blisters or sores in mouth
    - blisters or peeling of the skin
    - redness or swelling of the eyes
    - swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue
    - problems breathing
  - **develop any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:**
    - yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes
    - dark or tea-colored urine
    - pale-colored stools or bowel movements
    - nausea or vomiting
    - loss of appetite
    - pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side below the ribs
- **Changes in liver tests**. People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with TIVICAY. Your healthcare provider may do

*(continued)*

## PATIENT INFORMATION for TIVICAY® (dolutegravir) Tablets (cont'd)

tests to check your liver function before and during treatment with TIVICAY.

- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicines. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

The most common side effects of TIVICAY include:

- trouble sleeping
- headache

Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of TIVICAY. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

### How should I store TIVICAY?

- Store TIVICAY at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).

**Keep TIVICAY and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

### General information about TIVICAY

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use TIVICAY for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give TIVICAY to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about TIVICAY that is written for health professionals.

For more information call 1-877-844-8872 or go to www.TIVICAY.com.

### What are the ingredients in TIVICAY?

**Active ingredient:** dolutegravir sodium

**Inactive ingredients:** d-mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone K29/32, sodium starch glycolate, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The tablet film-coating contains the inactive ingredients iron oxide yellow, macrogol/PEG, polyvinyl alcohol-part hydrolyzed, talc, and titanium dioxide.

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured for:

ViiV Healthcare
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

by:

GlaxoSmithKline
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

May 2014

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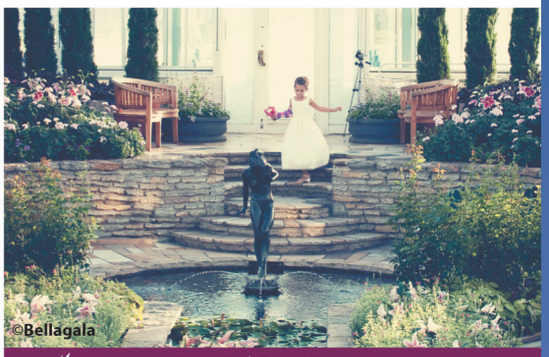


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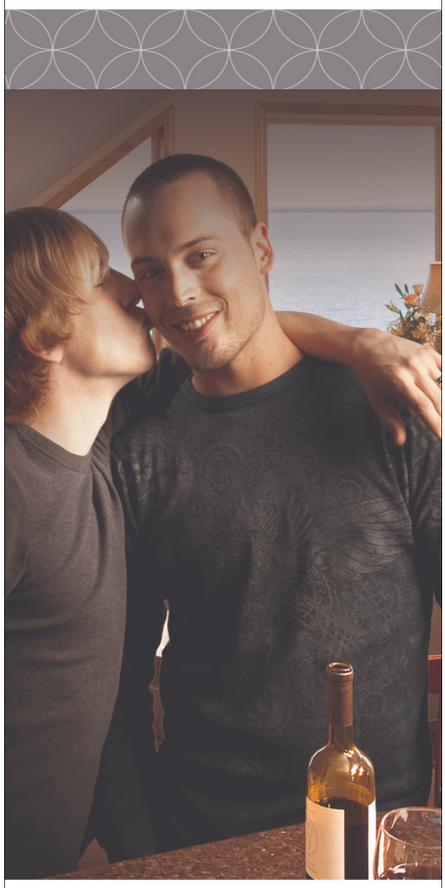
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# LAVENDER®

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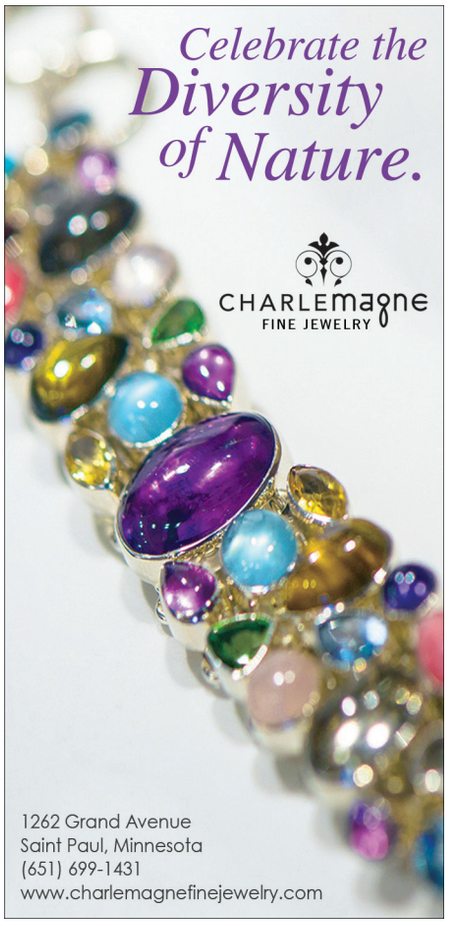
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**FROM THE EDITOR** | BY ANDY LIEN

# Send Pastries.

Oh, the 2014 Holiday Gift Guide. It's a fun issue to put together; I really enjoy seeing what the columnists give us for wish lists and must-haves. There is so much to find out there, so much to see, for different price ranges and interests. And, to cap off a wonderful inaugural year of introducing Lav.fash to the consumers of Lavender Media (both magazine and online), we have a wonderful 14-page section of fashion and style for you, in time for the holidays and new year. I want to personally congratulate and thank Justin Jones and Brandon McCray for not only conceptualizing but also executing a whole new style and fashion section for us, bringing in tremendous talent like Kyle Lieberman as photographer and Hollie Mae Schultz as subject and collaborator. They have developed their presence through the year and have polished their product with aplomb. I can't see what next year holds for Lav.fash.

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Always. Still. As usual. It's how I operate, particularly during the holidays. There are people to see, events to enjoy, dishes to cook, presents to wrap. Our Editorial Calendar Year (ECY2014) is coming to a close and I'm looking at ECY2015 as being yet another one of growth and greatness. It's a bit of anticipation to add to the chaos.

One of my usual cries for help when I'm frazzled is, "Send pastries." Like the Bat Signal, I send it up when I really need to acknowledge that things are a bit crazy. Or, like a big WARNING sign, it's a way to tell people to just stay away from me while I get things under control. Rarely does it actually result in someone sending me pastries, but it has actually happened, just as if Santa had beat up Krampus. The holidays tend to be stressful, whether self-imposed or not. So, I take matters into my own hands and make my own damn pastry. And it is glorious.

What pastry? I make my Great Grandma Bergquist's Swedish Kringla.

I have the recipe committed to memory, but I still open the *Dassel Home Circle Cookbook*, first published in 1960, for Grandma B's words (though they were attributed to Mrs. Arvid Bergquist instead of Sara Bergquist, before rural feminism). It's a ritual. And, about whether it's "Kringla," "Kringle," or "Kringler," I don't care. I'm sure there are cultural implications about one being Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, or "other," but I still don't care. If Sara says it's Kringla, it's Kringla.

In a nutshell, this version of Kringla is basically a choux pastry puff on pie crust slathered in icing. Simple, huh? If not, feel free to find this article on the Lavender website for step-by-step photos. Be sure to send up the Pastries Signal if you get stuck.

## SWEDISH KRINGLA

**Crust Ingredients:**
**1 cup Flour**
**1/2 cup Butter**
**1 T Water**

**Pastry Ingredients:**
**1 cup Water**
**1/2 cup Butter**
**1 cup Flour**
**1/2 t Almond Extract**
**3 Eggs**

**Icing Ingredients:**
**1 cup Powdered Sugar**
**1 T Butter**
**1/2 t Almond Extract**
**2 T Half & Half (or Milk…something creamy that makes it more spreadable)**
**Sliced Almonds**

**CRUST:**

Put all of the crust ingredients in a small bowl. Sara's directions say to make it like a pie crust…this means that you should cut the (really cold) butter into the flour and add the (ice cold) water slowly as it's needed. I decided not to follow Sara's directions entirely and used room temperature butter and threw the water in right away. Rebel. I use a pastry cutter to mix it together, but two knives held with a fingertip between them could do the trick, too. Or a fork. Or a food processor. See? We kind of fudge the rules these days and it all usually turns out just fine.

Mix together the crust ingredients and split the dough in half, rolling each half into a ball.

One ball at a time, press the dough into two strips that are about 12" x 3" on a parchment paper-covered cookie sheet. Set it aside.

**PASTRY:**

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Put the water and butter in a medium saucepan over HI heat.

While waiting for it to come to a boil, get the rest of the ingredients for the pastry out and ready to go, including a spatula and an electric beater.

As soon as the water and butter start to boil, pull the pan off the burner and immediately throw in the cup of pre-scooped flour. Mix with a spatula until flour is incorporated.

Add the first egg and use the beaters to blend. Add second egg and use beaters to blend. Add third egg and use beaters to blend. Add almond extract and use beaters to blend. This entire add/blend process might take about a minute or two.

Take the spatula and split pastry batter in half. Scoop the first half onto one of the crust strips and spread it out. Try not to leave too many peaks or valleys as that's how choux pastry tends to bake…what started as a sharp little peak will remain one, albeit brown and a little too crispy. The point is to place the pastry on top of the crust, not to cover the crust in pastry like frosting. Get the difference? Like how the creamy middle of an OREO sits on the chocolate cookie without completely covering it. Do the same with the second half of pastry.

Place sheet in oven and set timer for 55 minutes.

Check in on the baking pastry…it should puff up and be unattractive like brown crusty pillows. Don't worry–it needs to puff to cook the egg mixture inside. It'll calm down.

**FROSTING:**

While the pastry is baking, make the frosting. As you're doing it, it may not seem like it's making much…but believe me, the flavor packs a wallop.

Throw all of the ingredients into a bowl and blend with the electric mixer. Scrape down the sides with a spatula to make sure it's all blended in and scoop your finger in for a taste. Yum. Almond joy.

After you take out the pastry, let it sit for 5-10 minutes before spreading on the frosting. Then, spread half the frosting on one, the other half on the other. Sprinkle some sliced almonds on each, I used about 1/4 cup for each Kringla.

Cut your Kringla into slices at an angle…or straight across, whichever you prefer. Leave them as larger, longer pieces or cut them in half to be more the size of bars. I recommend eating the batch within a day or so as (even in an airtight container) the icing tends to harden and then seep liquid after a while. Plus, warm pastry atop a buttery flaky crust smeared in almond icing deserves to be consumed while at its best. Fresh.

Enjoy the holiday season, enjoy each other. Enjoy the pastry.



With you and with thanks,

Andy




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*"Every day, driving the same route … he would get upset and tell me, 'Pull over, I'm going to throw up' … the kicker was when he told me that he'd rather die than go to school."*

This is a quote from Sharon Lane, whose children attend public school in Sabine Parish, Louisiana. The family is Buddhist, and her son was being routinely tormented by teachers for not knowing "correct" answers.

One illustration from a science test stated: "Amazing what the _____ has made!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" (Yes, that many explanation points) The correct answer: "Lord." The boy's step-sister, also in his class, said questions of this sort were frequent and earned extra credit.

When Lane approached the school principal, she was told if they didn't like it, they could leave. On up the ladder, the district superintendent claimed they had the right to act as they did. When Lane replied, "We live in the United States of America … This is not a totally different country," the district superintendent replied, "But you are in the Bible Belt," and the school superintendent asked, "Does he have to be a Buddhist?"

Some conservatives saw the school's actions as a breach of the United States Constitution, and many in the Deep South would agree, but as our country becomes increasingly pluralistic, encompassing many races and faiths, fear of the unknown increases.

Georgia's newly elected Jody Hice is not only anti-gay, but would allow a woman to enter politics only "within the authority of her husband," and asserts Muslim–Americans are not protected under the First Amendment because Islam is not a true religion. North Carolina's Mark Walker suggested, "We go laser or blitz" Mexico as a response to immigrants crossing our borders.

Fear of the "other" is not going away. We're taught in grade school that the Pilgrims came to these shores for religious freedom, but those Puritans sought freedom only for their particular faith. They killed and mutilated the nonobservant—Quakers like young Mary Dyer were hanged on the Boston Common in 1660 for holding to her faith.

Today, we need to go beyond this 400-year-old mindset to ensure that everyone has both the right to an education free of religious harassment and the freedom to worship—or not—as one chooses. ■









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**November 29 • 9pm-2am**
**eagleBOLTbar • 515 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis**
Strap on your harness, slip on your sleaze-tees, breakout your Nasty Pig gear, or come as you are...its time to sweat to the deep and dirty beats of DJ Naughty Boyy. The new official close to Eagle Bolt Bar Leather Month is back for it's second year in the dark disco of the Bolt! Lets get ready ... and just dance! Visit eagleboltbar.com for more info.

### LAVENDER'S DECEMBER FIRST THURSDAY – PRESENTED BY KETEL ONE
**December 4 • 5:30-8pm**
**Mattie's on Main • 43 Main St. SE, Minneapolis**
The annual holiday edition of First Thursdays is always a festive event. Join Lavender Magazine, Twin Cities HRC, OutFront MN, Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, North Country Bears, Minneapolis Movie Bears, Twin Cities Quorum, Prime Timers MSP, Twin Cities Pride, MN Freedom Band, Freedom Jazz, One Voice Mixed Chorus and our sponsors Ketel One Vodka, Messerli & Kramer, and Little Black Dress Wines as we celebrate the holiday season. Admission is FREE - No RSVP needed. There's also no dress code, so come as you are. The evening features complimentary appetizers, cash bar with featured Ketel One cocktails, cocktail and wine sampling and prize registrations. There's plenty of parking available, Visit lavendermagazine.com/calendar/lavenders-first-thursdays/ or search "Lavender's December First Thursday" on Facebook for more information.

### JIM BRICKMAN PRESENTS YESTERDAY ONCE MORE
**December 5-6 • 7:30pm**
**Cowles Center • Minneapolis Marriott NW • 7025 Northland Dr. N., Brooklyn Park**
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**The Town House • 1415 University Ave. W., St. Paul**
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### PLAY WITH MY POODLE FOR CHRISTMAS
**December 5-21**
**Illusion Theater • 528 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis**
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### SWING IN THE SEASON
**December 7 • 3-5:30pm**
**The Woman's Club • 410 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis**
Swing in the holiday season with Freedom Jazz, a 16-piece big band jazz ensemble. There's free parking, dancing, a cash bar, and of course, some hot jazz to tap your feet and dance to. Visit www.freedomjazz.org for more info.

### MOVEMBER ON MAIN – SHOW OFF YOUR WORK
**December 7 • 5-8pm**
**Mattie's on Main • 43 Main St. SE, Minneapolis**
Celebrate the end of Movember 2014 and show off your Mo! Mattie's is the place to show off your moustache for a good cause. For every $20 donated you get a free draft beer and a coupon for a free appetizer. Prizes, including an Apple TV. It's an evening of mustaches, beer and men's health. Search "Movember on Main" on Facebook for more info.

### QUORUM'S HOLIDAY PARTY
**December 9 • 6-8:30pm**
**Location: Minneapolis Marriott NW • 7025 Northland Dr. N., Brooklyn Park**
Please join Quorum for an evening of holiday cheer as they celebrate the past year and look ahead to 2015. Make sure to bring lots of business cards as this is a wonderful evening for networking. All are welcome to attend the celebration! Search "Quorum's 2014 Holiday Party" on Facebook for further details, including the party location.

### FLIP PHONE
**December 11 • 10pm-1:45am**
**Loring Past Bar • 327 14th Ave. SE, Minneapolis**
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### TWIN CITIES GAY MEN'S CHORUS HOLIDAY CONCERT
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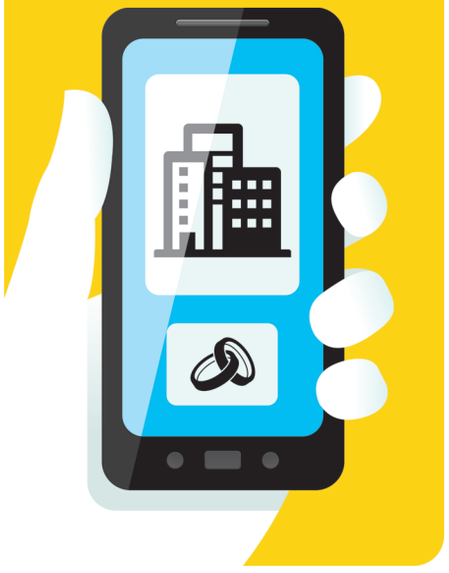


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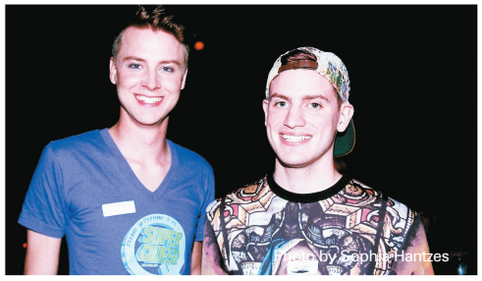
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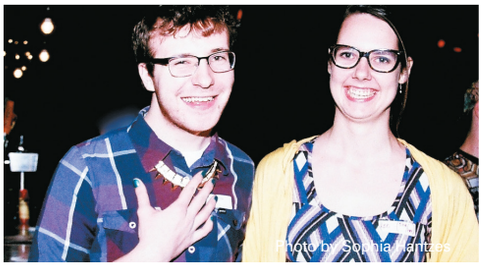





















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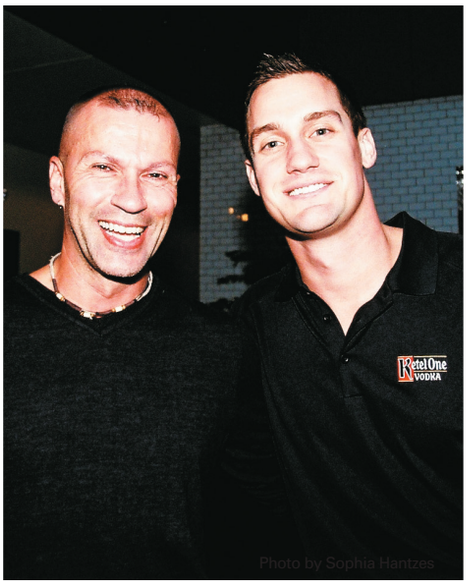






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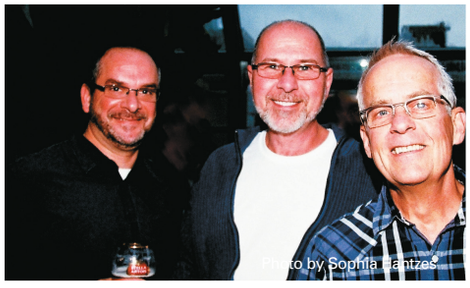
























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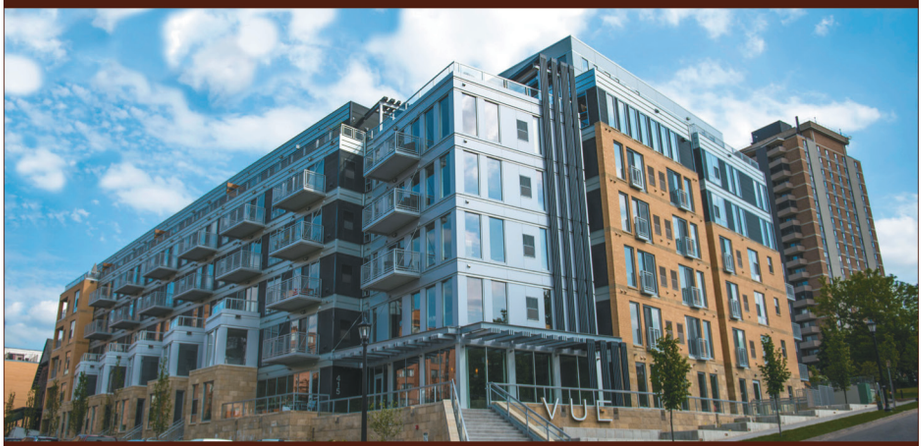



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## HRC VIGIL: RAISING VOICES OF LGBT CATHOLICS

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***Hello Dolly!***. Photo by Heidi Bohnenkamp

## *4000 MILES*

**Dec. 5 – 21**
**Boss Stage at Park Square Theatre,**
**408 St. Peter St., St. Paul**
**651-291-7005**
**www.parksquaretheatre.org**

*4000 Miles* by Amy Herzog was a finalist for last year's Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Gabriel Murphy as Leo and Linda Kelsey as Vera portray the play's two lead roles on the newly opened Andy Boss Stage at Park Square Theatre.

Murphy relates that the play "begins with 21-year-old Leo having just completed a cross-country bike trip showing up unannounced at this 91-year-old grandmother (Vera)'s West Village apartment in the middle of the night. At the top of the play Leo is emotionally wounded and lost, still suffering from a recent traumatic event. Over the course of the play we see how Leo's relationship with his feisty Marxist grandmother allows him to begin to heal."

Murphy notes, "He has a combination of fierce intelligence and frequent unawareness. He has moments of being very astute, very wise, followed by moments of being extremely juvenile and irresponsible, which make for some very funny interactions with Vera. At the same time, all of his behavior is undercut by a deep well of sadness. Because of Leo's emotional baggage, watching him begin to build a very real, very vulnerable friendship with Vera is very moving."

## *HELLO DOLLY!*

**Through Feb. 27**
**Chanhassen Dinner Theatres,**
**501 W. 78th St., Chanhassen**
**952-934-1511**
**www.chanhassendt.com**

Chanhassen Dinner Theatres lives up to its rep as the nation's flagship dinner theater company with an effervescent and uplifting production of gay icon Jerry Herman's *Hello Dolly!* Michelle Barber gives a lead performance so splendidly dynamic you may feel like dancing out of the theater after the curtain call. Aside from her terrific vocals, Barber captures the essence of a woman at midlife who is both materially and spiritually weighing her options about how she should live the rest of her life. As breezy as the performance rightly is, you get the numinous depth of a woman of substance and experience.

Michael Brindisi's bouyant direction of his vibrant ensemble is brisk and beautifully in synch with the gay 1890s setting, as are Nayna Ramey's set and Rich Hamson's costumes. The tight-fitting body suits in the "Before the Parade Passes By" number beguile.

Keith Rice finds the heart and callousness inherent in Vandergelder, the man Dolly is out to reform. Cat Brindisi as milliner Irene, and Frank Joseph Moran as her love interest, Cornelius, are a divine match. Tamara Kangas Erickson's choreography dazzles with vaudevillian flair. Andrew Cooke's music direction is simply joyous.

## *MOTOWN THE MUSICAL*

**Dec. 16 – 28**
**Orpheum Theatre,**
**910 Hennepin Av., Mpls.**
**800-982-2787**
**www.hennepintheatretrust.org**

The story of Motown record label founder Berry Gordy is now

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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MUSIC AND LYRICS BY BENJ PASEK
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a musical on national tour. Ensemble member Rashad Naylor describes his preparation: "I immersed myself in the music and any interviews I could find on the several artists that I portray. I studied what made those artists special in their own right, and with the help of our creative team we found the most explosive marriage of my talents and theirs. Having the opportunity to actually talk one-on-one with Mr. Gordy himself gave me an untapped source of insight into the minds of those artists at that time. The tricky part about the research, for me, is that several of my characters, for example Jackie Wilson, are in the show at the start of their career. Most of their interviews speak about them after they were already famous or even dead."

## *PAST (PRESENT) TENSE – UNIVERSITY DANCE THEATRE'S DANCE REVOLUTIONS*

**Dec. 4 – 7**
**Rarig Center, U of M, 330-21st Av., Mpls.**
**612-624-2345**
**www.theatre.umn.edu**

When acclaimed choreographer Scott Rink and his partner Michael Tennant were planning a 2014 trip to Scandinavia last year, they had hoped to visit Russia but, during the Olympics, they heard troubling stories of gay oppression under President Vladimir Putin. Brutal assaults on gays and lesbians by gangs and police that sometimes left them dead or severely maimed were becoming routine in the face of specifically codified anti-gay legislation.

The atheistic USSR was no friend of gays but Putin's Russia and its Duma legislature have embraced a rigidly puritanical version of Christianity. Blasphemy has also been coded into an actual punishable state crime, hence, reinforcing institutionalized homophobia. Russia reflects an anti-secular global trend wherein separation of religion and state is devalued.

Rink's new work, *Past (Present) Tense*, is motivated by these dreadful developments. He shares, "The US State Department issued warnings deeming travel in Russia to be unsafe for members of the GLBT community. While we were mildly fearful of travel to St. Petersburg, it was more a desire to funnel our tourism funds away from this homophobic climate. Having stopped in Berlin just prior to what would have been our next planned stop of St. Petersburg, there was a feeling of history repeating itself. So for my current project, I wanted to create a war dance, or ritual of sorts, to prepare for battle against this oppression.




***Motown The Musical.*** Photo by Joan Marcus



***The Whale.*** Poster design by Whittney A. Streeter

And for me, who better to lead the cry than Shirley Bassey." (Note: in Nazi German death camps, gays wore pink triangles.)

## *THE WHALE*

**Through Dec. 20**
**Mixed Blood Theatre,**
**1501 S. 4th St., Mpls.**
**800-838-3006**
**www.walkingshadowcompany.org**

Samuel D. Hunter's drama has perhaps the most obese protagonist ever written and it also has intrinsic gay subject matter. Zach Curtis plays Charlie in Walking Shadow's area premiere. Director Amy Rummenie relates that "superficially, it's about a tremendously large man and the way he reaches out to the people around him in the light of impending health crisis. But its hidden depths are what really resonate with me. It grapples with grief, love, human possibility, inherent evil, and redemption. Hunter (addresses) Charlie's sexuality, family betrayal, lost love, and the power of his own body to shelter and endanger him at the same time. Charlie is a man who has so retreated from the world that he hides within his size to keep others and his own past at bay. Suddenly, with death fast approaching, he has a very small chance to make a difference in the future of his malevolent teen daughter (Katie Adducci). At the same time, the surprise visit of a renegade solo Mormon missionary (Zach Garcia) brings him closer to answering the mystery of what destroyed his lover ten years ago." ■



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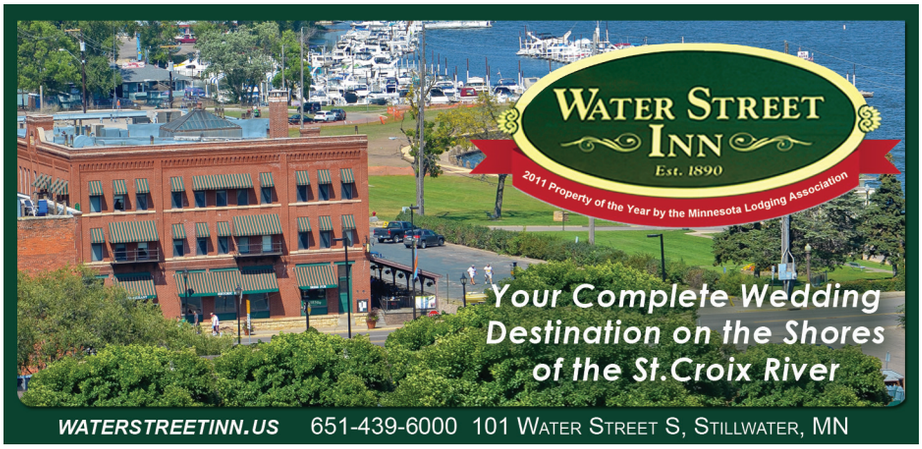
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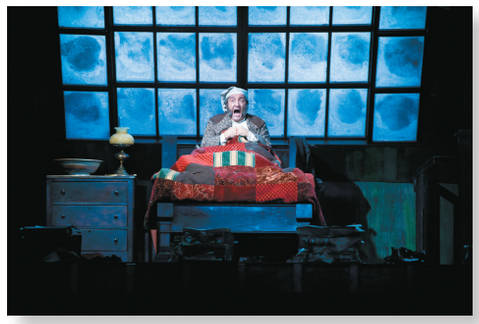
**1. Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas**
**Children's Theatre Company,**
UnitedHealth Group Stage
November 11, 2014 – January 4, 2015
www.childrenstheatre.org




1

Photo by Dan Norman

**2. A Christmas Carol**
**Guthrie Theater's Wurtele Thrust Stage**
November 13 – December 28, 2014
www.guthrietheater.org



2

Photo by Michael Brosilow

**3. Twerking Around the Christmas Tree**
**Brave New Workshop Theatre**
November 15 – January 31, 2015
www.bravenewworkshop.com

3



Photo by Dani Werner

**4. A Charlie Brown Christmas**
**Old Log Theatre**
November 18 – December 31, 2014
www.oldlog.com

4



Photo courtesy of the Old Log Theatre

**5. Irving Berlin's White Christmas**
**Orpheum Theatre**
November 25 – 30, 2014
www.hennepintheatretrust.org

5



Photo by Kevin White

**6. A Don't Hug Me Christmas Carol**
**New Century Theatre**
November 28, 2014 – January 4, 2015
www.donthugme.com

6




**7. A Stocking Full of Awesome IV: HUP! The Herald Angels Sing**
**Brave New Workshop Theatre**
November 28, 2014 – January 3, 2015
www.bravenewworkshop.com



7

Photo courtesy of Danger Committee

**8. A Very Asian Christmas Concert**
**The Southern Theater**
November 29 – 30, 2014
www.muperformingarts.org

8



Photo by Heidi Bohnenkamp

**9. A Christmas Story, The Musical**
**Ordway Center for the Performing Arts**
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9



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

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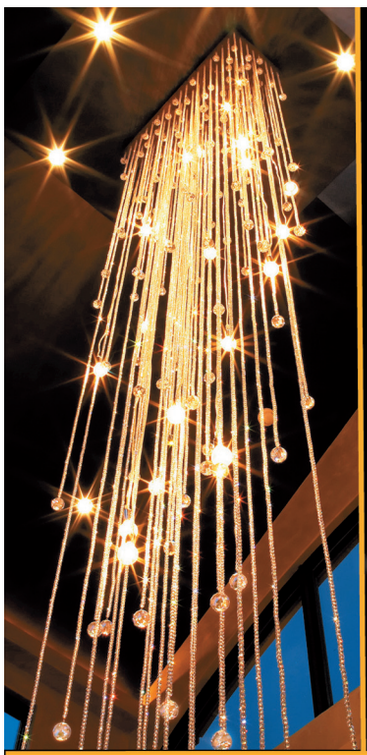


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**11. The Chanukah Guest**
**Hillcrest Center Theater**
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www.mnjewishtheatre.org

**12. Play with My Poodle for Christmas – Miss Richfield 1981's 15th Annual Holiday Show**
**Illusion Theater**
December 5 – 21, 2014
www.illusiontheater.org

**13. Visions of Sugarplums: A Burlesque Nutcracker**
**The Ritz Theater**
December 11 – 20, 2014
www.visionsofsugarplumsshows.com

**14. Joyful and Triumphant**
**Ted Mann Concert Hall on the U of M campus**
December 12 – 14, 2014
www.tcgmc.org

**15. All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914 by Peter Rothstein**
**Pantages Theatre**
December 17 – 21, 2014
www.theaterlatteda.com

**16. Clara's Dream**
**Macalester College Theater**
December 18 – 21, 2014
www.spcballet.org

**17. Martini & Olive in Takin' Care of Christmas**
**Chanhassen Dinner Theatres**
December 26 – 28, 2014
www.chanhassenDT.com

10



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11



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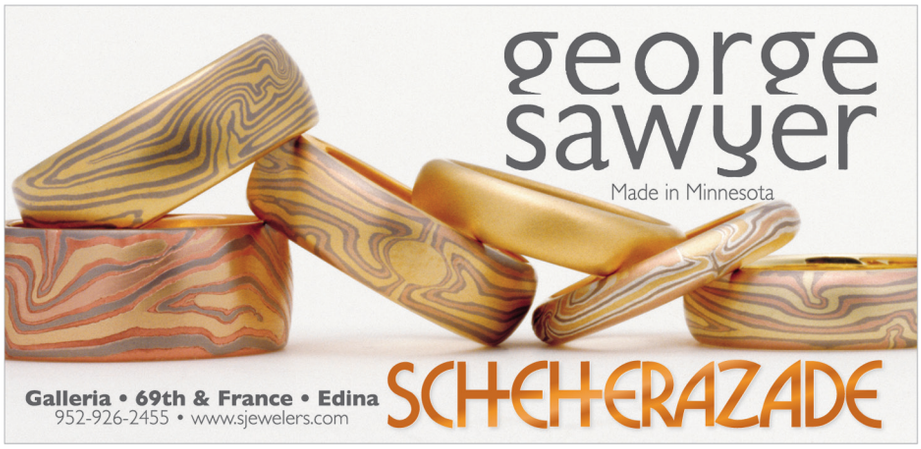


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# Grand Jete en Avant

Her movement looks choreographed; her speech sounds rehearsed. Her skin is porcelain-fair; her posture, unbreakably proper. With a presence at once commanding and fragile, she leaves in her wake tides of perfume, sweeping mystery, head turns, and curiosity.

A photo stylist by trade and at all times picture-ready, she seemingly lives her profession. Her clothes are never out of place; her hair remains unspoiled in the most menacing of conditions; her demeanor is palpably chic.

From a distance she is a creation of *Coppélia*'s Dr. Coppelius, a life-sized doll, unmissable, intriguing, impossible.

But from up close: "We're gonna sell these panties!" she says during a recount of an underwear shoot and laughs.

As poised as she may seem to a stranger, she is in reality every bit the humble, funny girl you'd hope for, but least expect, from afar. She crinkles her nose when she laughs, slaps her knee when she finds something hilarious, asks her friends to watch for boob slippage, and dances proudly to equal parts rap music and 90's boy bands (alone, if needed). She's the first and last person on a dance floor. She's the first to listen to a secret and the last to let it go.

From up close, she is no doll. She's real.

Hollie Mae Schultz is renowned for her work as a stylist, most recently awarded Best Stylist at the 2014 Minnesota Fashion Awards. Her portfolio includes Levi's, *Sports Illustrated*, *Maxim*, Target, and other storied nationals. Locally she's worked with *Minnesota Bride*, *Vita.mn*, and, as you will see in these ensuing pages, *Lavender Magazine*.

She is a classically trained ballet dancer and has danced professionally. She holds degrees in sociology, public health, and performance dance. She travels the country to speak on her profession and has an acclaimed nonprofit, Project Healthy Smile.

She is understandably sanguine, but self-assurance hasn't been a constant. Her height—she's 5'11" today—plagued her in her formative years.

She never attended a school dance. She never went to prom. Classmates teased her from an early age.

"I was definitely insecure," she says. "I wasn't popular with the boys. I *wanted* to fit in. I wanted to dress up and go to prom and be cool… I'd never wear anything sleeveless or short because my legs and arms were so thin and long. It took me until I was 19 or 20 before I was okay with my height."

Her not attending a school dance, however, didn't keep her from dancing.

At three years old, Hollie Mae began what would become a lifelong passion: ballet. She devoted herself to its practice and recital, doubly so in adolescence, and it was with ballet she assailed her insecurities.

"Ballet is quite the discipline," she says. "I love it. It taught me not only about athleticism, but about the body, how to move and manipulate it in ways to make it look longer or curvier… [Ballet] is all about knowing position and angles."

Her study required her to spend years at barres and in front of mirrors, teaching her poise and, perhaps more importantly, self-acceptance.

Ballet primed her for a career in fashion: its instruction trained her to anticipate the figure, how fabric falls, how it moves, how it flows and when. Snap a photograph at any time during a professional ballet and you'll appreciate this importance: every image is flawless.

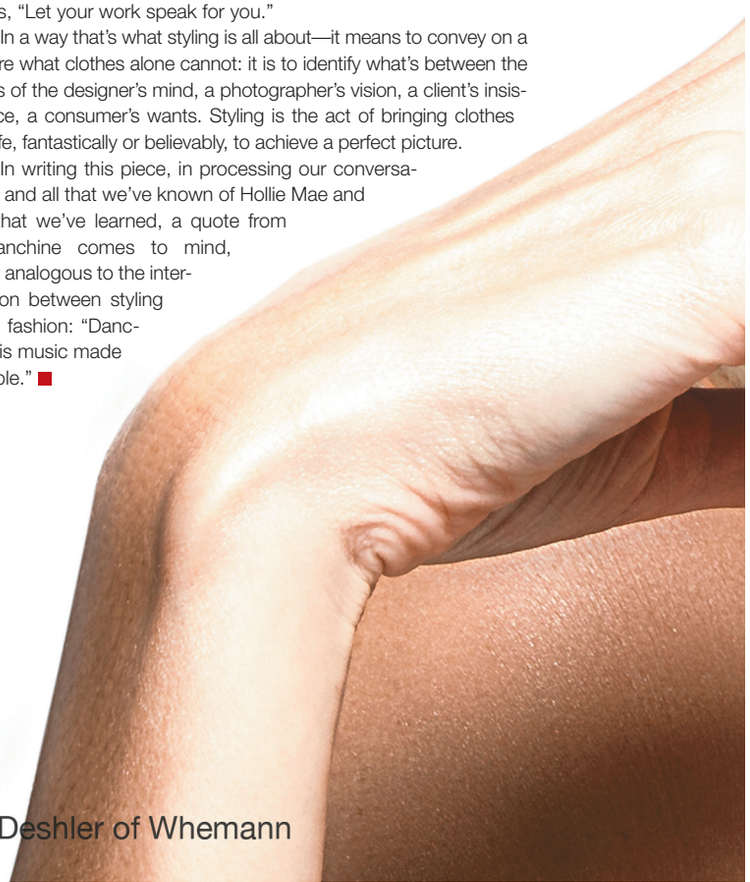
"That's the goal," she says of styling, "The goal is to create the perfect picture. I love making something look beautiful."

She qualifies, "[But] one of the biggest misperceptions is that what we [stylists] do is glamorous. People don't see the schlepping, all of the running around or heavy-lifting. People only see the end product, which isn't most of what we do."

The idea of the end product, a perfect picture, representing the public's fascination with her profession, resonates when she speaks to what inspires her ethic: "Don't speak for your work," she says, "Let your work speak for you."

In a way that's what styling is all about—it means to convey on a figure what clothes alone cannot: it is to identify what's between the lines of the designer's mind, a photographer's vision, a client's insistence, a consumer's wants. Styling is the act of bringing clothes to life, fantastically or believably, to achieve a perfect picture.

In writing this piece, in processing our conversation and all that we've known of Hollie Mae and all that we've learned, a quote from Balanchine comes to mind, one analogous to the interaction between styling and fashion: "Dancing is music made visible." ■



Photographed by Kyle Lieberman. Manicurist Markus J. Deshler of Whemann



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**QUORUM SECTION**

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# 2014 Year in Review

The Board of Twin Cities Quorum just finished their year-end retreat. This retreat was a tradition started last year, in which the Board members take two entiredays tucked away do some serious work as well as bond with each other. We completed a review of the previous year, and laid some serious groundwork to get next year off and running right away in 2015.

As we "retreated" this past weekend, we reminisced on some of the things we were most proud that Quorum accomplished. In January 2014, Twin Cities Quorum had its first Kick off retreat - in which all Board members discussed, brainstormed and created plans for their roles & made commitments to their deliverables for 2104. In February, Quorum kickedoff a new partnership with **Lavender Magazine**, which offers our members discounted advertising rates as well as this monthly Quorum section to highlight what Quorum has been up to. In March Quorum organized and facilitated this years' first WPA (Work Place Alliance) event Hosted by **Ameriprise** with **Target** as a Presenter. This is a forum in which Employee Resource Groups from all over the Metro are invited for discussion. The topic was "Ally Engagement" and over 40 people showed up for this discussion. In May we had our Quorum Annual Community Leadership Awards Dinner at **Pinstripes**, sponsored by **Morgan Stanley** at which we recognized the following leaders in our community: **The Bartmann Restaurant Group, Janet Bystrom & RECLAIM, Richard Herod III, Marcus Waterbury** and **Barbara Satin**. Also in May, we partnered with **Rubin Cordaro Design, Jasper + Black, LLC,** and **OutLoud Promotions** to host **Sam McClure** for an **NGLCC Roadshow** in which Sam talked about the **NGLCC Certification** for **LGBTBEs (LGBT Business Enterprise)** and how they can leverage that designation to connect to corporate partners. In June we organized and facilitated our next **Work Place Alliance** event, hosted by **General Mills**. This event centered on meaningful conversations among local ERGs regarding "Trans Inclusion and Trans Issues in the Work Place." Being Pride month, we also worked hard in June to increase our visibility within the framework of **Twin Cities Pride**, and our section of the Loring Park known as **"Quorum Village."** July saw the 2014 **NGLCC National Business and Leadership Conference** in Vegas - at which 6 Board members attended as well as Certified LGBTBEs from the Twin Cities. In August, Twin Cities Quorum was recognized as "Non-Profit of the Game" at the last regular season game of the successful **Minnesota Lynx** Women's Basketball. In October we put on the 21st Annual National Coming Out Day Luncheon at which we heard the powerful stories of authentic living by **Mayor Betsy Hodges, Scott Cooper, Qamar Saadiq Saoud, Carley Knox,** and **Erica Fields**, hosted by **Matt Brickman** at **Twin Cities Marriott City Center**. All of these successes were in addition to our 40+ networking events, an increase in the number of LGBTBEs in the Twin Cities, building a new relationship with the NGLCC and overall increased visibility with a presence on social media, at local events such as **Lavender's First Thursday**, the return of a printed directory of membership for distribution and advertising on **AM950**.

However, most importantly, 2014 was another year of growth of Twin Cities Quorum with continuing return of past members, as well as a lot of brand new members joining. Twin Cities Quorum exists because of our members. What is in store for our members next year? Well, we can't wait to share everything we discussed at the year-end retreat, but look for a return of the Q Card, increased programming for members, a Membership Welcome Packet, a 2015 Holiday Quorum Crawl to Quorum businesses, and much, much more!

We hope to see everyone at our annual Holiday Party on December 9th hosted at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest. Please RSVP at www.twincitiesquorum.com.

Amy Ruzick - Twin Cities Quorum - President




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# RUMBLE ON THE RUNWAY

## MINNESOTA FASHION AWARDS

**Produced by Vargas Productions**
Hosted by Carly Aplin & Tim Mahoney
The Depot Minneapolis
Saturday, October 4, 2014

When you walk into a fashion show and are greeted by Ferraris and Bentleys and a red carpet flanked by video crews and photographers, you know you're stepping into something special.

The venue was breathtaking, the stage and runway were bigger than most in New York, the crowd was a star-studded collection of fashion personalities who have worked nationally, internationally, and locally.

Attendees were dressed equal parts Alexander McQueen, Louboutin, and local designers and boutiques such as Caroline Hayden and Atmosfere Minneapolis.

Easily the most anticipated fashion event of 2014, Rumble on the Runway served as grand finale for fall's fashion season. The event, conceived and produced by Vargas Productions, producer of the enormously successful Crystal Ball, capped a busy season in powerful form.

The night's entertainment was also its namesake: five area boutiques each choreographed a competitive theatrical runway show, judged live and American Idol-style by a panel of four Twin Cities fashion insiders (Richard Moody, Jon Charles, Laura Schara, and Sandy Simmons).

And yet, glamorous though it was, Rumble on the Runway means so much more. The event served as Minnesota's first-ever peer-recognized fashion awards. From a panel of 25 judges comprising perspectives from every facet in the industry (from journalists to models to stylists and more) came 50 nominees and 10 awards. For the first time, the industry's top professionals recognized their peers as a Minnesota Fashion Academy.

**Award Winners**
Blogger: Ali Kaplan
Stylist: Hollie Mae Schultz
Male Model: Will Defiel
Female Model: Valerie Carpenter
Men's Store: Martin Patrick3
Women's Store: Grethen House
Makeup Artist: Fatima Olive
Hair Stylist: Andrea Holton
Photographer: Miles Schuster
Designer: Emma Berg
Rumble Winner: Atmosfere
Lifetime Achievement: Len Druskin



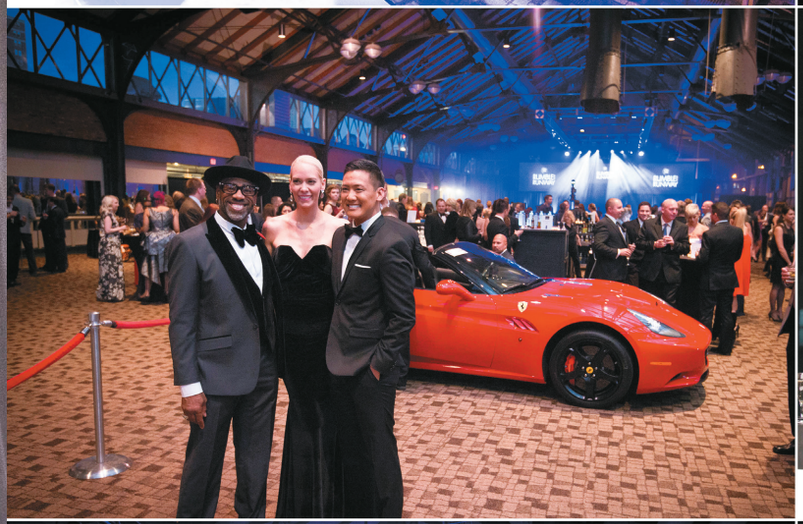

Photos by Bruce Silcox


RUMBLE
RUNWAY


RUMBLE
RUNWAY


RUMBLE
RUNWAY





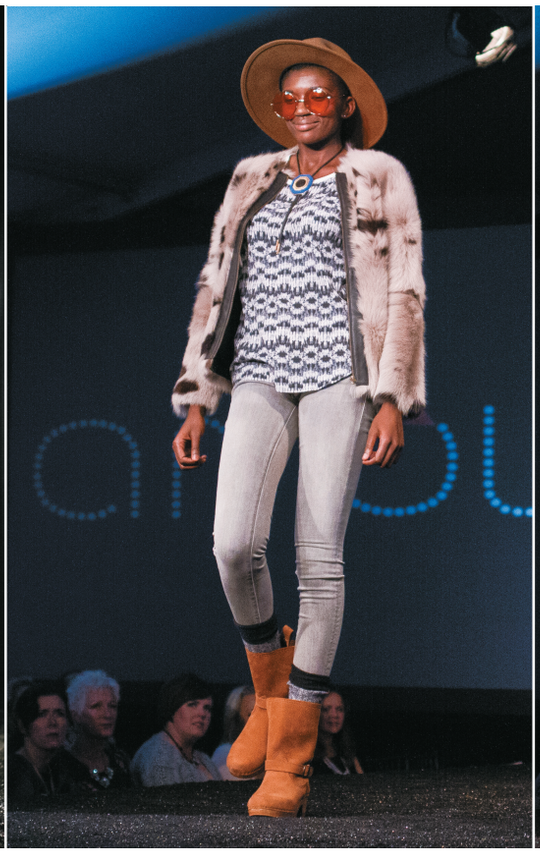



RUMBLE
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RUMBLE
RUNWAY
ULTRA
VIP





↑ Fairbault



↑ Arrow

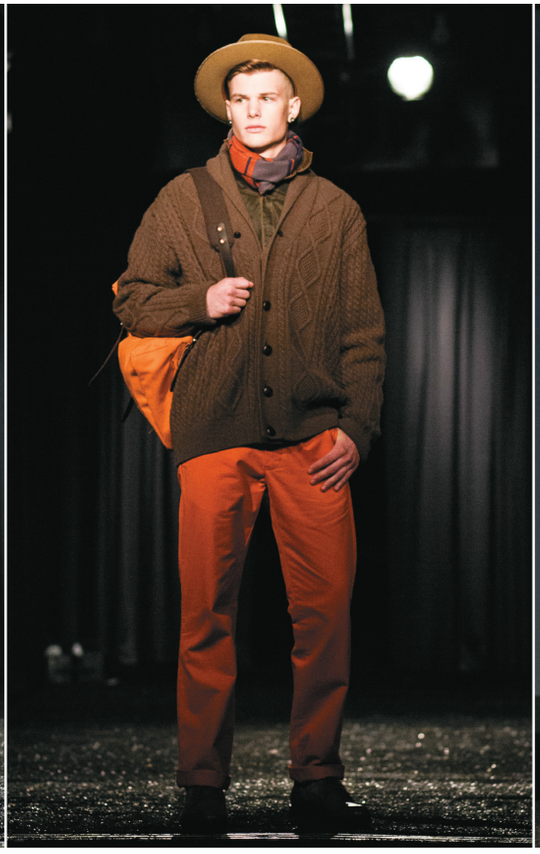



↑ Emma Berg

↓ Straub



↓ Heimie's

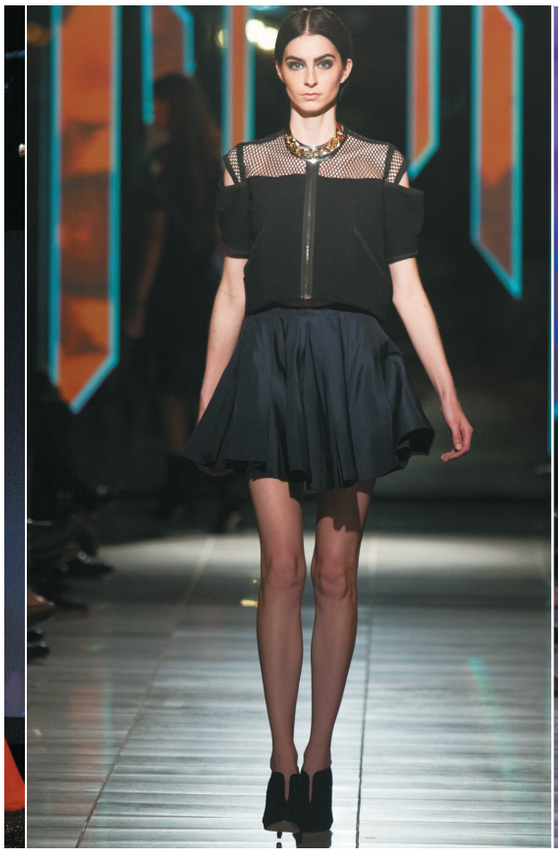


↓ Hackwith



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↑ Emily Trevor



↑ George Moskal




↑ Cliche

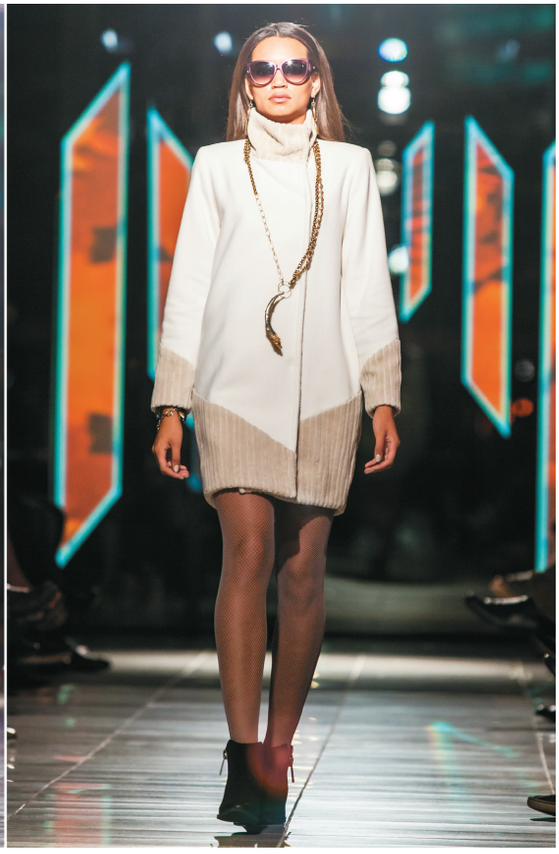
↓ Kjurek



↓ Idle Child



↓ Cocoon By Elizabeth Geisler



# Lav.fash™ GIFT GUIDE

HARDT JEWELRY. AVAILABLE AT HART-JEWELRY.COM

**1. Diverse Equal Cuff, $115**

**2. Diverse Equal Ring, $85**

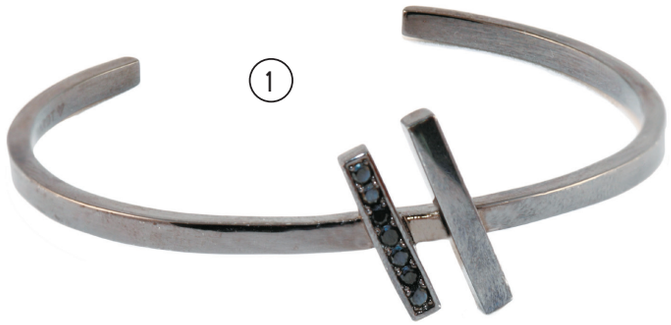
**3. Dual Equal Ring, $85**

**4. Equal Hardt Necklace, $70-$80**

**5. Pyramid Double Finger Ring, $100**

**6. Slim Equal Cuff, $100**

**7. Unified Strength Statement Cuff, $130**



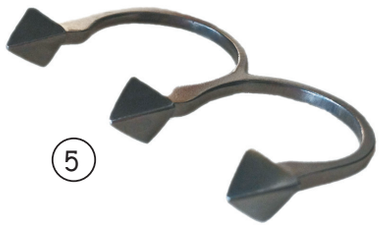













HARDT JEWELRY™ is dedicated to raising awareness and promoting acceptance through a tangible medium. The introductory line, Equal Hardt Collection, is a symbol of support, pride, and commitment to all forms of equality.

The central piece of this collection is a modern twist on a classic symbol, that of a heart. The HARDT™ is angular, strong, and dons an equal sign, a universal symbol understood to be a statement of identity and support.

All Hardt Jewelry photos, except item #4, by Meghan Lee Artistry. Equal Hardt necklace photo by Lisa Ophoven







*Items selected for the Lav.fash Holiday Gift Guide are locally designed*

# Lav.fash™ GIFT GUIDE

**MarkedLeather.com:**

1. Marked Card Holder, $18

2. Marked Carry-all Clutch in Miel, $75

3. Marked Top Loading Duffle, $450

4. Marked Tote, $285

All Marked photography by Shun Jie Yong




1



2



3



4



5



6

**WoodchuckUSA.com:**

5. Woodchuck Black American Walnut iPhone 6 Skin, $29.99

6. Woodchuck Cedar Flask, $39.99

*Items selected for the Lav.fash Holiday Gift Guide are locally designed*

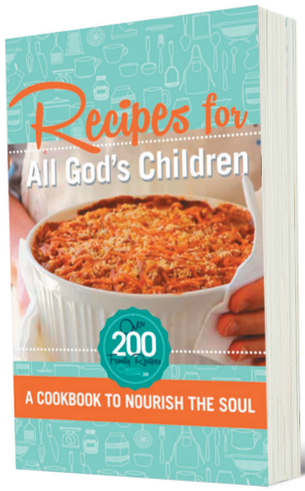
# Holiday Gift Guide

**1. Mustache and Mustache - Photo Holiday Card**
How do you like your holiday season? With a twist of quirky, please! This holiday card features a fun and unique mustache and mustache illustration and your personalized wording.
**as low as $1.63 each**
**Invitations by Dawn**
**www.invitationsbydawn.com**




1

**2. Recipes for All God's Children**
"Recipes for All God's Children," the 1st edition of AGC's cookbook, is a celebration of the diverse food traditions present in our faith community. These recipes will truly nourish your soul. May we all share joy throughout the land.
**$25**
**All God's Children Metropolitan Community Church**
**www.agcmcc.org/cookbook**




2

**3. Hanukkah Gift Box**
Delicious nine piece assortment of handmade , Kosher certified chocolate truffles. You may select your flavor choices from over 30 exciting flavors. Perfect for yourself or exceptional gifts.
**$37.45**
**Just Truffles, Inc.**
**www.justtruffles.com**



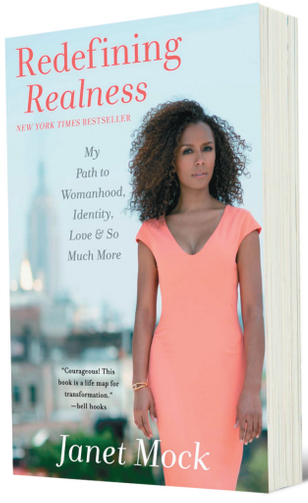
3

***4. Through the Door of Life: A Jewish Journey Between Genders***
**by Joy Ladin**
Jay Ladin was a father struggling with identity, eventually leading to gender-reassignment surgery. As a newly tenured professor at Yeshiva University, Orthodox Judaism's top institution, Ladin had other concerns about career and religion. Now known as Joy, the author shares her story of pain and triumph.
**$19.95**




4

***5. Redefining Realness: My Path to Womanhood, Identity, Love & So Much More***
**by Janet Mock**
Far too many assume that Janet Mock's story is primarily about her body. This book is irrefutable evidence that Janet must be understood through her intellect, spirit, and wit. Janet does what only great writers of autobiography accomplish—she tells a story of the self, which turns out to be a reflection of all humanity.
**$24.99**




5

# Holiday Gift Guide

**1. Black Diamond Jewelry**
Turn heads at your holiday party this season in stunningly elegant Black Diamond jewelry. Sparkling top-quality faceted Black Diamond Strands complement any outfit, and this 18k white gold ring, featuring a 3.17 carat Rose Cut Black Diamond, will put you at the top of every "best dressed" list.
**Strands $3000 - $18000, Ring $9300**
**Charlemagne Fine Jewelry**
**www.charlemagnefinejewelry.com**



1

**2. Buben & Zorweg - Gentleman**
The Buben & Zorweg Gentleman (BZ 120510001) is for the man with tastes of distinction. Your favorite items can be safely stored in this lockable, beautifully finished macassar storage case. It is designed with safe havens for two watches on cushions as well as a jewelry tray with storage for writing instruments, cufflinks, rings and other valuable.
**$1400**
**TimeScape**
**www.timescapeusa.com**



2

**3. Silver and Enamel Cufflinks**
With clever shapes, rich colored enamel, and other quirky features, these cufflinks by Deakin and Francis are anywhere from whimsical to elegant. His, hers, and your favorite pair are all awaiting you at Max's!
**Styles ranging from $400- $600**
**Max's**
**www.stylebymax.com**

3



**4. Bi Pride Bracelet**
The flag is an evolution of the pink and blue triangles (an earlier symbol of the bisexual community), and the resulting purple colour when they overlap, representing the middle ground. The colors of the bisexual pride flag are incorporated into this wrapped wire bracelet.
**$45**
**Etsy: lisasgems**
**www.etsy.com/shop/lisasgems**



4

**5.Transgender Pride Handmade Byzantine Bracelet**
A very flexible, enthralling, and charming transgender pride chainmaille bracelet. Perfect for everyday wear.
**$18**
**Etsy: ASilverDragonfly**
**www.etsy.com/shop/ASilverDragonfly**

5



# Holiday Gift Guide

**1. A2B VeloCiti Electric Bike**
The feature-rich A2B VelocCiti includes integrated front and rear lights, high-quality disc brakes, and a hard-tail frame for an exhilarating ride no matter where you want to go. The removable battery leaves you free to charge it up anywhere you can find an outlet; so you're never tied down. Quiet. • Economical. • Eco-friendly.
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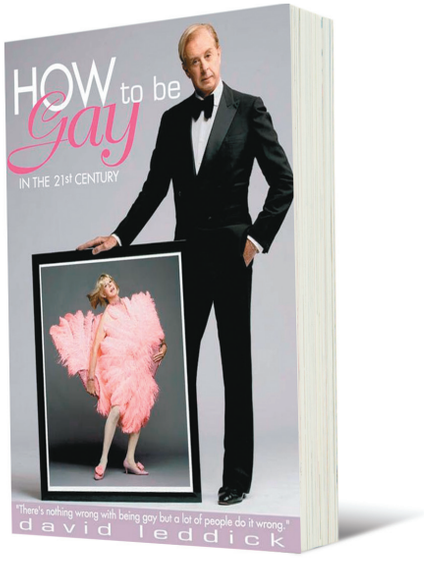
**2. Leather Handle Cutting Board**
Leather handle cutting boards hand made in Philadelphia from domestic hardwood. The leather is vegetable tanned and embossed.
**From $115**
**Pharmacie**
**www.pharmaciempls.com**

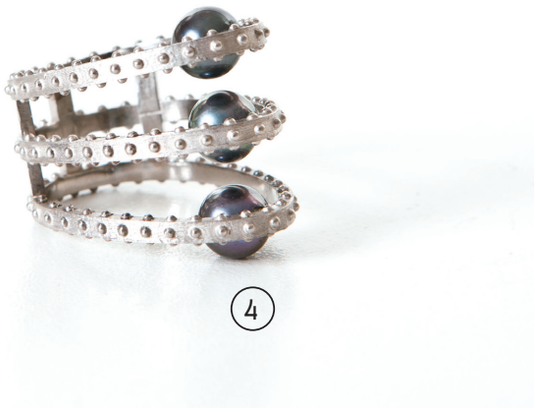
**3. Red Lace Corsette Harness**
A gorgeous fabric and lace strap-on harness, 4 way adjustable straps that fit up to 60 inch hips. Machine washable and includes interchangeable O-rings.
**$44.95**
**Fantasy Gifts**
**www.fantasygifts.com**

**4. 'Triple Elevation' Ring**
Transcend the mundane by leaving an impression on all those you meet while wearing piece of art no one has seen before. The pearls in this ring touch the finger making it one of the most comfortable rings in your collection.
**$2700, available in palladium and gold**
**T Lee Custom Designer Jewelry**
**www.tleegold.com**

***5. How to Be Gay in the 21st Century***
**by David Leddick**
An etiquette guide for those who just can't get gay "right," Leddick offers a fun and illustrated "how to" be gay, just like you might learn how to change a tire (but you won't find that in this book). Chapters include "Don't Get Married to a Woman," "Should You Tell Your Parents?" (well-timed for the holidays) , "Don't Be a Bitch," "How to Dress," "On Getting Older," "To Bar or Not to Bar," and much more. A cute last-minute gift idea.
**$14.95**




5

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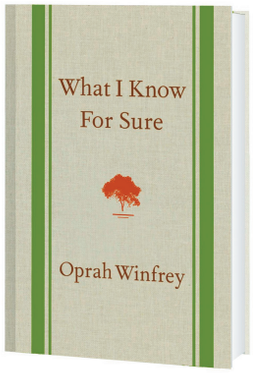
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# Holiday Gift Guide

by Shane Lueck

*I'm part of a generation that has everything and still wants more. It's a classic case of "What do you get the person who has everything?" At this point, it's about the thought or personal touch behind the gift. As the years go by it becomes more and more important to me to give gifts that reflect a personal touch or are cause for self-reflection. The following five items do just that; they're all items that I wouldn't mind receiving and you can bet I'm giving them as gifts this year.*




1

**1. What I Know For Sure by Oprah Winfrey**

Let's face it, we would all give anything to have bit of Oprah bestowed on us. This collection of bits of wisdom begins with Oprah recalling a 1998 interview during which the late, great film critic Gene Siskel asked her, "[W]hat do you know for sure?" This compilation of one- to three-page essays (collected and updated from the column of the same name she's been writing for her magazine since 2000) is packed with very personal answers compiled in this ribbon-markered, clothbound bible of a book. If you've read, heard, watched, prayed to, or memorialized the gospel according to Oprah, there will be much to delight you here, and few surprises.

**Barnes & Noble**
**$24.99**
**www.barnesandnoble.com**

2



**2. Astrological Star Map Necklace**

These 22 kt gold-plated necklaces, featuring zodiac constellations punctuated with sparkly crystals, make a great, glittery gift even when Mercury is in retrograde. As a proud Virgo, I'm always looking for classy ways to incorporate zodiac imagery into my wardrobe and these 16-inch necklaces with a 3-inch extender do the trick. For those looking to support American-made products, look no further. Sequin's pieces are handcrafted in the USA with components from around the world.

**Sequin**
**$48**
**www.sequin-nyc.com**

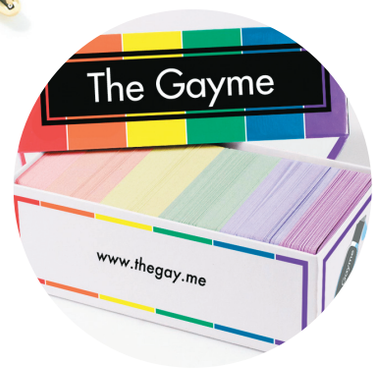


3

**3. Ballpoint Pens**

Handwritten notes may be going the way of the dodo bird, but everyone still treasures receiving them. Rage against the email (or at least rebel a little) with these refillable black ink ballpoint pens, sheathed in sophisticated color-block enamel. You'll be finding excuses to handwrite cards (and to-do lists and love notes) with these pens. Each one comes in a gift box inscribed with one of Kate Spade's signature "she statements," adding personality to the pencil cup. My favorite? The turquoise-green combo with a box that reads "She uses a nom de plume for reservations."

**Kate Spade**
**$36 each**
**www.katespade.com**




4

**4. The Gayme**

There's nothing better than a game night with friends. Funded by a successful Kickstarter campaign, The Gayme is an innovative party game that consolidates gay culture and coming-of-age experience into hundreds of stimulating cards. The best part is anyone can play! GLBT or ally, it doesn't matter. There are 500 unique cards, each crafted to promote bonding, story-telling, and maybe a bit of intoxication. Because the experience of The Gayme comes from the players, each time you play it will be different. You can play with three players or 20, it's very versatile. You can play in your kitchen, in your bed, at your mom's house, in a bar: all you need is a surface, drinks, and people!

**The Gayme**
**$25**
**www.thegay.me**




5

**5. Good To Be Queen Tea Towel**

Confession: I'm obsessed with Naked Décor's entire London Calling collection. From princess pillows to queen clocks, the collection is fit for someone who is under the false impression that they're a royal (like me). Again, it's all about those personal touches this year and anyone who knows me understands that a crown is a *very* personal item to a queen. This tea towel further condones that delusion by expressing that it is "Good To Be Queen," along with iconic London imagery surrounding a silhouette that could easily be Queen Elizabeth II. Stroke someone's ego and decorate their kitchen at the same time!

**Naked Décor**
**$14**
**www.nakeddecor.com**

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Minneapolis, MN

for more info and to purchase tickets, visit:
www.freedomjazz.org

LESBIAN AND GAY BAND ASSOCIATION

the MN Freedom Band is a 501(c)3 corporation

# Holiday Gift Guide

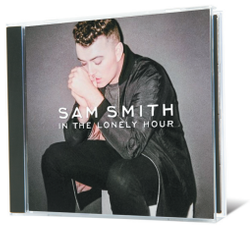
by Randy Stern

**1. Sam Smith, *In The Lonely Hour***

Like most music lovers, I have been relegated to buying individual songs from iTunes rather than purchasing a full album. My reasoning has been the lack of real albums out there. That is, until now. I love Smith's soulfulness and it shows on multiple tracks on this album. It will be tough determining how to play the entire album on which device (I've gone Android instead of iOS. Oy.), but it is a great album!

**Capitol Records**
**$9.99 and Up.**
**Available via iTunes Music Store, Google Play store and your local music retailer.**
**www.samsmithworld.com**

1




**2. MacBook Air**

When you are separated by your workhorse, even if it was at your own hands, you miss it. A lot. I still believe that (a) MacOS is one of the best computer operating systems around and (b) it is worth the price of admission. If the worst hands in the universe did not accidentally destroy yet another old white MacBook, this would not be on this Holiday Gift Guide…heck, I was going to replace it anyway…

**Apple**
**$899.00 for an 11-inch with 128GB of Flash Storage**
**Available via the Apple Store or other consumer electronic retailer nearest you**
**www.store.apple.com**



2

**3. iPhone 6**

Switching to Android was an interesting idea. When you are used to a phone operating system that works well, you are simply used to it. This would become a debate worthy of bandwidth and acrimony, but let me publicly say that I miss my old iPhone, though missing my old MacBook is a deeper wound. To go with a new MacBook, one must enjoy the smaller iPhone 6, not the big one. In many cases smaller is better.

**Apple**
**$199.00 for the 4.7-inch model**
**Available via the Apple Store, mobile phone carriers or other consumer electronic retailer nearest you**
**www.store.apple.com**



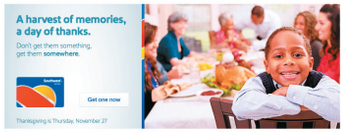

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**4. Southwest Airlines Gift Card**

This year, I had the pleasure of finally flying one of the most talked about air carriers in the skies. I was very pleased. So pleased that I am flying them again. To spread the word about one of the fastest growing airlines out of MSP, why not give that person a Southwest Airlines Gift Card? Share the "LUV," and give someone you love the gift of flight, with no baggage fees and so forth.

**Southwest Airlines**
**Choose any amount from $10.00-1,000.00**
**www.southwest.com**

4

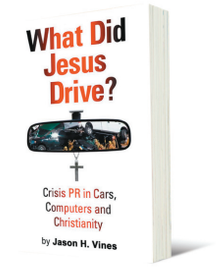



**5. *What Did Jesus Drive?: Crisis PR in Cars, Computers and Christianity* by Jason Vines**

If you want an insight on what this particular contributing writer has to deal with, a good read would help. Vines was one of the first public relations people I dealt with in covering the automotive industry, and he's a firebrand. At one time, he responded to an ad showing a gay stereotype for one of DaimlerChrysler's products in his own off-the-cuff way. However, his story goes beyond his automotive PR resume, as he covers his days at Compuware and Zondervan, along with his views on PR crises and how they were handled. It might not be a sexy book, but if you are interested in PR, this one could be rather juicy.

**Waldorf Press**
**$17.95**
**Available from Waldorf Press, Amazon.com or your local bookstore**
**www.waldorfpress.com**

5




**6. A Suit**

Two years ago in my first Holiday Gift Guide submission, I sort of said that every man (and woman) needs a suit (or something business formal in dress). The rationale is simple: If you are going for a job or are working and will be in a business-like atmosphere requiring professional dress, you need to have something that fits! Let me emphasize the last word. An ill-fitting suit makes you look like you do not care. A tailor would help here, but a newer suit would help you win the day with clients and/or your superiors. Dress for success? You betcha!

**Starting at $329.00**
**Men's Wearhouse or other clothing retailers**
**www.menswearhouse.com**



6

**7. 2015 Dodge Challenger**

For an automobile, it is not about the rational and practical that makes one buy a particular model. It is about the gut reaction to it. This is driven by the word "want." In social media, we use that word singularly stating we are jealous or really want what that person posted on his or her timeline. If there was one car that made a huge impression on me (to the point of saying, "If I had the money, I would actually buy one"), it is this. I'll take mine in Sublime Green, the R/T Scat Pack, please?

**Fiat Chrysler Automobiles**
**Starting at $26,995 – actual model considered is $46,465**
**Available at your local Dodge dealer**
**www.dodge.com**

7



# Holiday Gift Guide

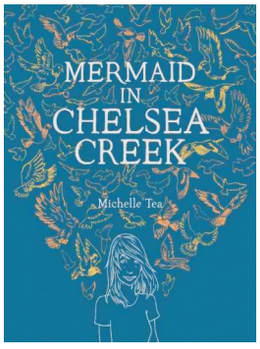
by Nell Gelhaus

*I'll admit it; lesbians are hard to buy for. Just when you think you have us all figured out, you realize we're not* that *kind of lesbian, we're the* other *kind. You know, with like, the camping and stuff. I may not represent every lesbian, but I'm a champion online shopper. Hopefully, something on this list should work for at least one lesbian you know.*

**1. Packers Gear**
Regular readers of my column should not be surprised. Everyone needs a Clay Matthews jersey, regardless of whether they're a Packers fan or not. Trust me; this goes over real well with your Minnesota relatives.
**Prices vary.**
**www.packersproshop.com (Yeah, yeah, I'm sure the Vikings have a site, too.)**




1




2

**2. Lesbian Literature**
The last few years have been particularly bountiful in terms of the lesbian lit produced. Michelle Tea has given us *Mermaid in Chelsea Creak*, Alison Bechdel followed up *Fun Home* with *Are You My Mother?* and this year, the venerable Sarah Waters has returned to form with *The Paying Guests*, which did not disappoint.
**$14.96 – $37.50**
**Amazon, or locally at Magers & Quinn Booksellers**
**www.magersandquinn.com**

**3. Lynx Tickets**
It doesn't matter the lesbian demographic, everyone will enjoy watching our hometown WNBA team put on a show.
**Prices vary.**
**www.wnba.com/lynx**




3

**4. Furminator**
Got a lesbian friend? Check. Got a lesbian friend with a dog? Double check. Got a lesbian friend whose furniture you can't sit on because it looks alive? Check, check, check. Dog, cat, or small rodent, the Furminator is the lesbian pet's best friend.
**$37.99 – $72.99**
**www.furminator.com**




4

5




**5. Deluxe Mini Kegerator & Draft Beer Dispenser**
Do I need to explain? While full-size kegerators run upwards of $500, this mini version is more affordable, and oh-how-cute. It uses such a small amount of counter space it can even be slyly slipped in next to your wife's KitchenAid Mixer.
**$159.00**
**www.amazon.com**

**6. Otterbox Commuter Wallet**
The best gift I've ever received is probably the best gift I could ever give. God forbid those of us that are less feminine are weighed down by something as cumbersome as a purse. And I can't tell you how many times I've lost my ID or check card while they float loosely in my pockets. I'll be damned though if anything were to ever happen to my smartphone! The genius gift? The commuter wallet. Phone case and wallet all rolled into one. You won't be disappointed.
**$39.90 – $49.90**
**www.otterbox.com**



6

**7. Karaoke Machine**
Who doesn't want to unleash their inner Joan Jett? Their inner Tegan & Sara? Melissa Etheridge?! We lesbians worth our salt can prove it in front of the microphone. Just so long as we get plenty of practice in the privacy of our own home. That's what I'm telling myself anyway.
**$127.55**
**www.amazon.com**



7

**8. Camp X Chair**
You can't go wrong with this one. Your lesbian friend likes camping? Covered. Your lesbian friend sings around a bonfire? Good to go. Your lesbian friend cheers at a lot of summer softball games? Buy this, now. It has a beer holder and a handy carrying case.
**$39.50**
**www.rei.com**



8

**9. Small Batch Starter Kit**
Who doesn't dream of inventing Minnesota's next champion brew? Pretty soon you'll be opening up your own storefront and passing out growlers to the masses. It starts in your own basement.
**$49.99**
**www.northernbrewer.com**



9









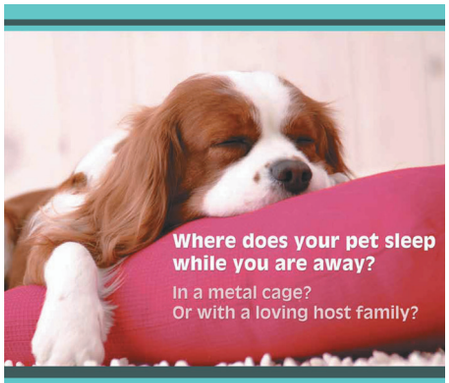

**Pet Products from Naked Decor**

We're switching things up in the pet gift guide portion of this issue and featuring gifts that feature pets! What's more, they're designed and produced by a gay artist from Washington DC, Supon Phornirunlit. As he puts it, "I don't give clients what they want, I give clients what they need." I could not agree more. My reaction to coasters with bulldogs in crowns is visercal and goes well beyond any simple wish list want, but they need to appear in my loft tout suite. The same goes for dachsund pillows, greyhound napkin rings, faux antlers for my exposed-brick walls, and tea towels with the lovable mugs of Boston Terriers eyeing me from my towel rack. Supon's pet-centric products (and other designs) are plentiful and all found online for those of us who need to share the Naked Decor love this holiday season.

**Naked Decor**
**www.nakeddecor.com**

All photos courtesy of Naked Decor

CONTINUED ON PAGE 60




Pets Are Inn provides a unique pet lodging alternative for those who may feel uncomfortable leaving their furry family member at a kennel or with friends or relatives.

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PetDermatologyClinic.com



Pillows and decorative pieces of all different kinds of pets and breeds can be found in Supon's décor zoo. Considering how much my dog Grendel hates cats, the devious side of me would love the irony of giving him a pillow with some fluffy feline devil on it for his lounging pleasure.

Find your delight at **www.nakeddecor.com.**

*-Andy Lien*



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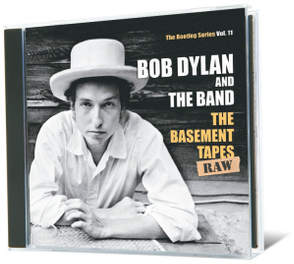
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# Holiday Gift Guide

by Ed Huyck

**1. Bob Dylan and the Band**
***Bootleg Series Vol. 11: The Basement Tapes Complete***
These legendary recordings were among the first rock bootlegs to be issued, as this mysterious period from the late 1960s intrigued fans. The rough recordings and stabs at classic Americana offered a roadmap that both Dylan and his backing band would take over the following decades. Since then, the tapes have come out in various formats, but this six-CD set collects six and a half hours and 100 songs for the listener to explore the ins and outs of Mr. Zimmerman's recuperation. Listening to it in one sitting is mainly for the dedicated fan interested in multiple takes of "Quinn the Eskimo," and there is a highlights two-CD set that compiles the very best of the tapes.
**$16-$120, depending on version.**
**www.bobdylan.com**

1




**2. Cantus**
***A Harvest Home***
The local vocal ensemble has celebrated multiple holidays through their career. This time out, the focus is Thanksgiving, but the folk tunes, hymns, and modern songs here work at any time of the year. The ensemble has always approached their music with a solid mixture of care, love, and heart, and that comes throughout this collection, from show tunes ("Food, Glorious Food") to longstanding bits of Americana, like "Turkey in the Straw" and "America, the Beautiful."
**$20**
**www.cantussings.org**

2




**3. Led Zeppelin**
***Led Zeppelin I-IV; Houses of the Holy* reissues**
Decades of overplay may have stripped these albums of their initial fire, but don't sleep on what four talented Brits could do with a bit of blues swagger and some electricity. Running from the heavy blues of the debut album to the aural complexity of *Houses of the Holy's* "The Rain Song," Led Zeppelin created rock music in their own image on these records in the time (five years) most modern bands would be thinking of a follow up to their debut. The original albums have been remixed and are packed to the gills with classic riffs and Robert Plant's overwhelming sexuality. The bonus material really isn't much to write home about, apart from a smoking live set from 1969 attached to the debut. The rest feature studio outtakes that add little to the existing tunes.
**$15-$100 each, depending on package**
**www.ledzeppelin.com**

3



**4. Beyoncé**
***Beyoncé* (Platinum Edition)**
Beyoncé's 2013 album—which arrived about a year ago with no fanfare but plenty of acclaim—gets a revised, deluxe edition in time for this season. Along with the original 14 cuts, the new edition features extra tunes and remixes and a bonus DVD from The Mrs. Carter Show World Tour. There is also the original DVD, which features short films (OK, you can call them videos if you want) based on the various tunes from the album. The extra packaging is nice, but it is the core album, which is loaded with heartfelt tunes and lots of musical power, that should be the attraction here.
**$30**
**www.beyonce.com**

4




**5. Björk**
***Biophilia Live***
As far back as the Sugercubes, Björk has been as much a visual experience as auditory one. This multi-CD/DVD package captures the live show from her recent tour, recorded in London, with a mixture of on-stage performances (including all of the tunes from her 8th album, *Biophilia*) and absolutely stunning visuals. If you didn't see her on tour or see this in the theater, a well-stocked home video system will do the trick.
**$15**
**www.bjork.com**

5



**6. Aretha Franklin**
***Aretha Franklin Sings the Great Diva Classics***
It doesn't take much for a pop star to be called a "diva" these days, but Aretha Franklin is the real deal, and this collection sets out to prove that at every turn. Here, we get more-recent tunes made famous by Adele ("Rolling in the Deep"), Alicia Keys ("No One"), and Sinead O'Connor ("Nothing Compares 2 U"). Then, she digs a layer deeper, hitting some soul and funk classics from the 1970s by the likes of Gloria Gaynor (you know the one). The entire way, moments of her own back catalogue arrive on stage, such as adding bits of "Respect" to Ashford and Simpson's "I'm Every Woman." What better way to bring in the season than with some hot soul?
**$12**
**www.arethafranklin.net**

6




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# Holiday Gift Guide

by E.B. Boatner




***1. The Bewitched Continuum: The Ultimate Guide to the Classic TV Series***
**Adam-Michael James**
**Bright Horse Publishing**
**$29.99**
An exegesis of Biblical proportions of the entire seven-year run of *Bewitched*, which, coincidentally, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. From 1964 to 1972, there were 254 episodes—*all* included here, in 611 glorious pages. Author James was eight, back then, and "fell in love," watching, re-watching, audiotyping, and memorizing. Now an adult, he focuses on the continuity of the supernatural sitcom, bringing Samantha, Darrin (both of them), Endora, and Tabitha back for your delectation.

**2. Black Faces, White Places: Reimagining the Relationships of African Americans to the Great Outdoors**
**Carolyn Finney**
**UNC Press**
**$24.95**
A unique take on race and one's access to nature. Is there really a "black experience" outside the mainstream environmental movement? Why, Finny asks, are African Americans so underrepresented in the general interest in nature, outdoor recreation, and environmentalism? Seeking answers, she looks at the races' understanding of the natural environment, reviewing the "legacies of slavery, Jim Crow, and racial violence" that have determined our concept of environment and who should have access to it.

**3. Photographic Architecture in the Twentieth Century**
**Claire Zimmerman**
**Minnesota University Press**
**$35**
Zimmerman, who is an associate professor of architectural history at the University of Michigan, explores what might at first thought seem clear: the relationship between photography and architecture. While the reproductive abilities and usefulness of the first in service to the second might seem obvious, the author's compelling thesis is that photography altered both its subjects and their reception in the twentieth century and beyond, influencing the very creation of the architectural works themselves.

**4. Wilde in America: Oscar Wilde and the Invention of the Modern Celebrity**
**David M. Friedman**
**W.W. Norton**
**$26.95**
Before there was Lady Gaga, there was Oscar, who early on declared, "Somehow or other I'll be famous, and if not famous, I'll be notorious." In time, he achieved both, and Friedman here charts the young Wilde's adventures as he sets out in 1881 for a year-long lecture tour of the United States. He covered 29 of America's 30 largest cities with the intention of selling himself before launching his writing career later. A flaming celebrity!

**5. Rural Studio at Twenty: Designing and Building in Hale County, Alabama**
**Andrew Freear and Elena Barthel, with Andrea Oppenheimer Dean**
**Photography Timothy Hurlsley**
**Princeton Architectural Press**
**$40**
For over twenty years, Rural Studio, a design/build program in Hale County, Alabama, has built homes and civic structures in this impoverished community. These are not dwellings imposed on clients, but structures built in collaboration with the citizenry. Cofounded by Samuel Mockbee and D.K. Ruth, the program uses local, salvaged, and other imaginatively obtained materials to create sustainable, inexpensive (20K House Program) structures tailored to the inhabitants needs. Essays and photographs inform this important book.

**6. Mood Change and Other Stories**
**Pat Dennis**
**Penury Press**
**$7.99**
Tongue in cheek, gun or knife in hand, Dennis stalks the demise of the deserving with lethal words. There are seven delectable tales here set before the reader in a rich smorgasbord of shadenfreude. As the season gets jollier and you—or the one you're gifting—gets more jaded, kick back with a beverage of choice and unleash your harbored slights.There are plenty of deserving victims, and they can't jail you for reading!

**7. Bronx Boys**
**Stephen Shames**
**Text by Martin Dones & Jose "Poncho" Muñoz**
**University of Texas Press**
**$34.90**
Shames started this project in 1977, photographing Bronx boys for *Look* magazine. Then, involved, Shames continued to follow these kids in one of the "toughest and poorest neighborhoods in the United States" through 2000. Gaining their trust, he observed, chronicling their lives; the bonding, the brutality, the drugs that meant jail or death for many. Two of his subjects, Martin Dones and José "Poncho" Muñoz, provide fascinating, first-person accounts of their lives—then and now.

**8. dr.a.g.**
**Author/Editor Christopher Logan**
**Bookthefilm Publishing**
**$29.52**
You'll need a *biiiiig* stocking, but what a stuffer! Created to raise funds for indie filmmaking, *dr.a.g.* (old theater acronym for "dressed as girl"), succeeds spectacularly. Top performers and photographers gave their time and talent to create a one-of-a-kind volume, featuring the likes of Larry Edwards, Lady Bunny, Charles Busch, Coco Peru, Jimmy James, and Jim Bailey. Prominent photographer credits highlight Magnus Hastings, Peter Palladino, Jose Colon, and many others.

**9. Agua Nacida: Water Born**
**Hugh Arnold – Photographer**
**Merrell**
**$40.90**
Arnold cruises through 368 pages of lush photographs exploring the ocean as a feminine element, through the lithe, nude bodies of Nika Lauriatis and Polina Barbasova. He immerses the viewer in a sensual, liquid element revealing the cycles of Woman from womb to ripeness. Living on Ibiza, surrounded by its healing waters, Arnold set off on a year-long quest, using the three-dimensional weightlessness of the sea to capture his subjects revealed in this exquisite volume.

**10. Great Gardens of America**
**Tim Richardson, Photographs by Andrea Jones**
**Francis Lincoln Ltd.**
**$30**
Richardson observes, "America's mode of gardening appears to be framed by the nation's historic embrace of the wilderness ideal." Thus armed, page through these twenty-five magnificent gardens, from Jefferson's classical Monticello, to formal efforts of the Rockefellers and DuPonts, to the individualists and modernists who created Dumbarton Oaks and gardens of the Miller and Donnell families in Indiana and California. A satisfying number of Jones's photos are allotted to each subject.

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# Holiday Gift Guide

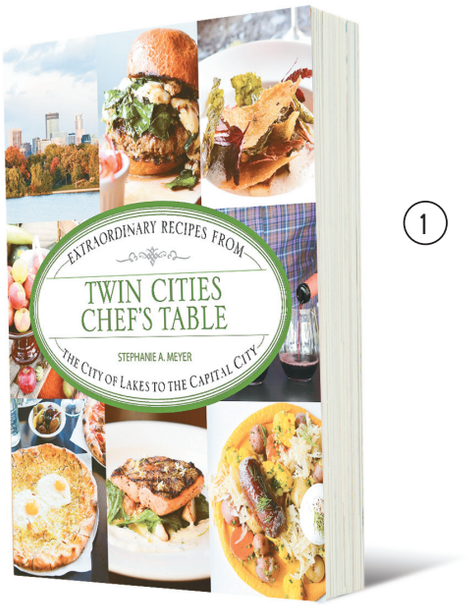
by Joy Summers

*The snow has blanketed the world in a sparkly, downy cover, my birthday dinner reservations are set (thank you kindly, Spoon and Stable) and I've got "Last Christmas" playing on an endless loop. The holidays are here and it's the time I get to share all that I love with those I care most about. And it's no surprise that most of these items are consumables.*

**1. *Twin Cities Chef's Table* by Stephanie A. Meyer**

I never shop early, but I've already got three copies of this book at the ready to send to friends near and far. Meyer collected all of the best restaurants and chefs in the Twin Cities and took stunning photos of their divine dishes. The recipes range from introductory to intricate, but all are easy to follow. The ramen from Zen Box Izakaya is the best excuse I've ever seen to cook for one. It's a love letter to the dining scene in our cities and I couldn't be more smitten.

**$24.95**




1

**2. Duluth Coffee Company**

Don't tell my mom, but I have a family visit strategy: I wait until she wakes up and makes us coffee before I'll get out of bed. She lives in Duluth and, if I'm lucky, she'll have picked up a pound from this roaster run by Erik Faust. He's a Twin Cities transplant and for my money, these are the best beans money can buy. Just smelling a bag is revelatory, but the taste is even better. Order up a sack and wake up with a house filled with happy revelers—even on New Year's Day.

**$14-$20**

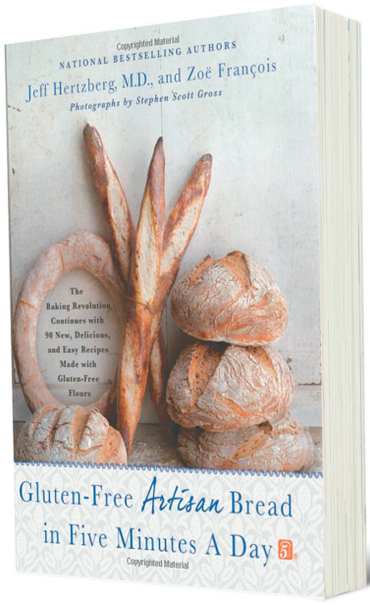
2



**3. *Gluten-Free Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day* by Jeff Hertzberg and Zoë François**

The best way to combat the cold is by staying near a warm oven. I had always struggled with making bread until I dug into the recently re-released *Artisan Bread in Five Minutes a Day*. Now, I've always got a bowl of dough in the fridge for quick pizzas and pita breads for weeknight dinners. Now, there's a way to share all that love with my (growing) list of friends with gluten sensitivity. These recipes are so good; you won't believe they're gluten-free.

**$29.99**




3

**4. Far North Spirits**

This year I've immersed myself in the bottom of several bottles. The craft cocktail scene continues to explode and it includes several , locally made craft spirits. There is much to love about several of these distilleries, but the one that can do no wrong by me is Far North Spirits. Summer was made sweeter by the subtle flavors in their Solveig gin that fast became my favorite. For fall they have Ålander spiced rum that is the ideal way to spike a glass of hot cider. Available in late 2015, they will have Roknar, a Minnesota-made rye whiskey. All of these bottles build a better bar for holiday celebrating.

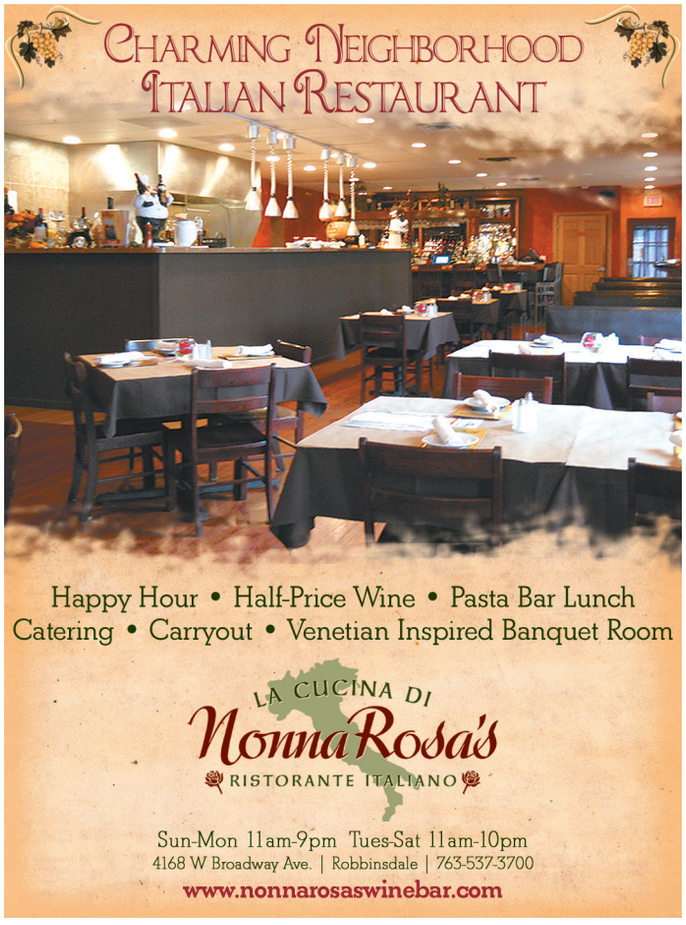
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4


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# Holiday Gift Guide

by Joy Summers

**1. Yumzar**

As much as I want to get out there and pull together a personalized gift for everyone, I'm often tied to my computer, banging away at a tight deadline, or snowed in and there are all these back episodes of *The Fosters* I need to catch up on. There's a new local website that has curated a glorious list of edible yum-yums that can be packaged together and easily shipped. They have Dashfire bitters, Gray Duck chai, barrel-aged honey, Groveland confections, flavor extracts, and more. It's dizzying and Yumzar.com makes shopping for those far away a breeze.




1

**2. Schell's Brewery Sampler Pack**
**$16.99**

I can't even pretend to keep up with all of the craft breweries that have opened lately. I'm not a beer nerd, but I do know that I will always enjoy a bottle of Schell's. Besides, everyone brings wine to a dinner party, why not bring a big selection of ice cold, locally made beer that pleases everybody from the hardcore snobs to those who might be more middle-of-the-road suds appreciators?




2

**3. Froz Broz Ice Cream**
**$10.00**

Some events rush by in a swirl, other times there are dinners that stretch for hours and the memories last for years afterwards. The first time I tasted the Froz Broz' ice cream was one of the latter. There were so many amazing people around that table that have since become dear friends. We were all passionate about food and warmed by homemade wine. Our evening ended with these flavor powerhouses. A study in textures from ultra rich and creamy to salty-crunchy, these guys have a gift for creating astounding flavor combinations. And now, finally, their wares are available for purchase two days a week (check www.frozbroz.com). It's easy to kill a pint yourself, but grab a few and share with friends. The memories last a lifetime.



3

**4. Marvel Bar Old Fashioned Candle**
**$40**

One of my favorite things to do before enjoying a cocktail is to lean in and inhale the beautiful perfume. The aroma builds anticipation of the taste, but mostly I just love the way the drink smells. I loved the scent of several bottles in my parents' bar long before the idea of ingesting them appealed to me. Now, I can get the smell of an Old Fashioned without having to manage the buzz with Marvel Bar's new candle sold through the Dayton brothers' next-door retail shop, Askov Finlayson (www.askovfinlayson.com). It smells like heaven and home.



4

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# Holiday Gift Guide

by Andy Lien

**1. Birch, Berries, and Birds**

The Sivertson Gallery in Grand Marais is where I found what makes me think fondly of the holidays in Minnesota. Birch, berries, and birds. Sarah Angst's Three Chickadees and Nick Wroblewski's Waxwings prints remind me of the beauty and life in the stark, cold winter. I want to serve cordials and cocktails in this glassware by Roost, while nursing my own hot coffee in Birch Mugs by Lenore Lampi.

**Sivertson Gallery: Grand Marais, Duluth, Online**

**Prices vary, see website.**

**www.sivertsongallery.com**





1



**2. Altai Hok Skis**

Part ski, part snowshoe, full-on FUN! Hok skis are the perfect solution for winter adventurers wanting the maneuverability of a snowshoe with some of the speed of a ski to explore outdoors. With its universal binding and integrated climbing skin, you can walk up a hill and ski down the other side. It's more efficient than snowshoeing because of the glide—you don't have to lift with every stride. Made in Washington state from sustainable paulownia wood cores combined with natural fibers and fiberglass, beautifully simple graphics represent art themes from the Altai Mountains. The name, 'Hok,' is the Tuwa word for ski in the Altai Mountains and the Tuwas are the smallest ethnic group in the area and the most dedicated skiers. The Hoks are the perfect playmate for our Midwest winters.

**Stone Harbor Wilderness Supply, Grand Marais and Online**

**$319.99**

**www.stoneharborws.com**

2



**3. Handpainted Dishes**

I walked past these dishes in the store and fell in love with them. They're subtle. They're clean with a little rustic. Graphic plates, cups, and vases, all hand-painted by Minnesota brand Clutch Design Co. They're local and wonderful. And they can be shipped.

**Threads, Grand Marais**

**Starting at $8.50**

**www.threadsshorestore.com**



3

**4. Woodzee Pride Collection Sunglasses**

Repurposing with pride. Show your rainbow pride with Woodzee's Pride Collection of sunglasses crafted from re-purposed Canadian maple wood skateboard decks with seven-ply construction. The Pride rainbow is showcased clearly from a side view, while your own view is polarized with lenses providing 100% UV400 protection. Unisex styles.

**Woodzee**

**$100**

**www.woodzee.com**




4

**5. Sweet Jules Caramels**

As much as I love chocolate, I'm all about the caramel. I was introduced to Sweet Jules caramels last year and can't get enough of them. The flavors range from fun to classic to a bit esoteric, with Beer & Pretzel to Vanilla Caramel to Midnight Spice, and so many others for the tasting. Available in various sizes, this Gourmet Caramel Tower is a crowd pleaser.

**Sweet Jules Gifts**

**Pictured here: $72.95**

**www.sweetjulesgifts.com**

5



**6. State Icon Ornaments**

State Icon Ornaments are smaller versions of State Icon illustrations by redshoes26 (approximately 1.25" in diameter x .75" deep). They come in aluminum and glass canisters and are adorned with a sparkly wreath and a ribbon, and hang from silver ornament hooks. I'm a goon for local landmarks and already have my alma mater's Old Main on my list of must-gets for my tree. Christy's got a whole lot of designs from all different states, not just Minnesota. Mix and match or collect them all.

**redshoes26**

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6


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by Andy Lien



7

**7. Name an Orpheum Theatre Seat!**
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**www.hennepintheatretrust.org/NameYourSeat**

8



**8. Royal Highness, Queen, and Palace Pillows**
Of course I should have known that Shane would choose something from the same "London Calling" collection of Naked Decor offerings the moment I showed him the catalog. As much as I work with him and as long as I've known him, we've shared an underlying affinity for all-things-queen. He chose the Queen Tea Towel (p. 54), but I chose all the Queen Pillows with some palatialarchitecture thrown in for good measure. Know an Anglophile? Anyone on your list who gets a bit of a Queen Complex? These accent pillows need to be theirs.
**Naked Decor**
**$49.95 each**
**www.nakeddecor.com**



by Ellen Krug

*Forget about all of those lakes—it's true, Minnesota's also home to 10,000 nonprofits! This Christmas, instead of hoping for a new set of wheels or piece of funky furniture, I thought I'd create a wish list of organizations that are worthy of financial support, if one was so inclined. (Boring but necessary disclosure: I'm personally involved with many of the nonprofits listed here, although what better way is there to know about the good work someone's doing?*

## HERE ARE MY TOP FIVE CHOICES:

**Call for Justice, LLC callforjustice.org**
First, consider Call for Justice, LLC, a small nonprofit that I head. (Yes, that's right, I'm selfishly plugging the place that gives me a regular paycheck.) We do incredible work behind the scenes helping people who earn low incomes connect with lawyers to protect key needs like housing or safety from abusers. We're also a major hub for legal resource information—for example, we train United Way 211 (Information & Referral) on how to make good legal referrals. Videotapes of those trainings (posted on the C4J website) have gone viral, meaning that people from across the world are getting help understanding the law and how to navigate legal systems. Consider a tax deductible donation, or if that's too much to ask, please "Like" C4J on Facebook. (Or better yet, do both!

**Jeremiah Program www.jeremiahprogram.org**
The Jeremiah Program helps women and children escape intergenerational poverty by providing housing, day care, and preschool services—sometimes for up to four years—while "Moms" attend college. Most importantly, Jeremiah's life coaches help women, many of whom have histories of extreme poverty and/or abuse, think differently about themselves. In other words, it's a program that empowers women to succeed while they bootstrap themselves upward. Almost all of the nearly 80 women that Jeremiah houses graduate from college; a fifth go on to earn graduate degrees. This is a phenomenal success rate! Consider a donation—and tell them Ellie sent you!

**Minnesota Lavender Bar Association**
**www.mnlavbar.org/wordpress**
The MLBA, the only professional organization of GLBT attorneys in Minnesota, gives a unified voice to a group of people who otherwise might be lost in a profession that's mostly comprised of straight people. Importantly, the MLBA recently launched a fellowship program to support GLBT attorneys who practice in greater Minnesota (read: outside of the freakin' Twin Cities). A donation to help fund the "Greater Minnesota Fellowship" would assist the MLBA in continuing that outreach. (Note: I'm an MLBA board member.)

**Minnesota Zen Meditation Center**
**www.mnzencenter.org**
The Minnesota Zen Meditation Center, which I attend, was founded in the 1970s just as Buddhism was being introduced to Minn-e-sot-a. There's something cool happening at the MZMC too: for the last year and a half, boatloads of twenty- and thirty-somethings are showing up, looking for a better way to approach life and the world. MZMC will soon begin a big remodeling campaign (to better serve those new people), and I bet they'd welcome donations to their building fund. You can even attend MZMC functions to see your donation at work!

**The Bridge for Youth bridgeforyouth.org**
Ever consider what it means to be an at-risk youth? How about the added issues of being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender and coming out in a family that's not very tolerant? The Bridge for Youth (again, I'm a board member) has several GLBT-oriented programs, including a youth support group named "So What If I Am?" Most recently, TBFY launched a support group for parents of GLBT youth; many parents have nowhere to turn for basic information related to their child coming out. What's more, and on a personal note that's very important to yours truly, TBFY maintains at least one bed space for transgender-identifying youth. Please put this place on your it's-the-end-of-the-year-and-I-need-a-tax-deduction list!

There are plenty of other deserving nonprofits out there. If none of these float your boat, identify organizations that align with your passions (animals, the arts, nursing homes for worn out cowboy rodeo clowns) and support them with either a donation or your time.

Thank you, Dear Gentle Readers! I hope you have a wonderful holiday season! ■

Ellie

# Prada Diamond Captures Miss Gay 90's Title

On the evening of October 30 at the La Femme Show Lounge, popular entertainer Prada Diamond won the Miss Gay 90's title, receiving a beautiful crown and $500 cash. In front of a large and appreciative audience, she emerged on top of a field of four contestants. B. Louise was first runner-up, and Mercedes Iman was second runner-up; the other contestant, Russelle Schvantz, did not place. The contest consisted of three categories: evening gown, talent, and question and answer. Longtime La Femme Show Director Nina Di Angelo emceed the event. Last year's Miss Gay 90's, Bad Karma, stepped down from her title during the evening. Other La Femme performers displayed their awesome talent as well. The La Femme ensemble is onstage Wednesday through Sunday nights upstairs at the Gay 90's.

**GAY 90'S**
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**Prada Diamond, the reigning Miss Gay 90's.** Photo by George Holdgrafer






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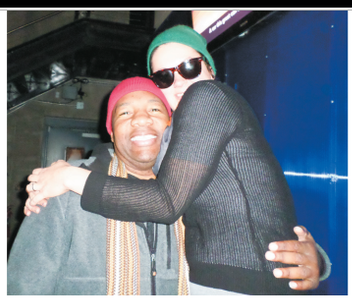
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BIGGAYNEWS FROM MISSOURI:

### Legally Married Same-Sex Couples Won't Be Allowed To Stay Together At City Union Mission

The *Kansas City Star* reports that even if same-sex marriage becomes legal in both Missouri and Kansas – a matter now working its way through the courts – same-sex couples will not be allowed to stay as couples at City Union Mission's family shelter. Dan Doty, executive director of the mission that has served the city for 90 years, said that the organization's Christian, faith-based program simply cannot change its policy to encompass what they see as inappropriate and against their Christian ideals. Doty said that they do shelter gays, lesbians, and transgendered people, but if a same-sex couple insists on being housed together, they will simply have to refer the couple to another organization who could help them, such as the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities of Kansas City-St. Joseph or reStart, Inc., all of whom have said that they will shelter same-sex couples together.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM MASSACHUSETTS:

### GLBT Group Marches In Boston's Veteran's Day Parade For First Time

The *Boston Globe* reports that a group representing GLBT military veterans marched in Boston's annual Veteran's Day parade, the first time such an organization has participated in the festivities. The group called OutVets, which serves GLBT veterans, their families and their supporters, is both nonpartisan and nonpolitical, was welcomed by the parade's organizers from the American Legion. Stephen Peers, commander of the Suffolk County Council of the American Legion Department of Massachusetts, is one of the organizers and said that they were very happy to have OutVets as part of the parade.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI:

### TV Campaign For Gay Equality Starts In Mississippi

The *Hattiesburg American* reports that Mary Jane Kennedy considers herself a conservative Christian Republican who's led Bible studies in her native Mississippi for decades, but she is also the mother of two gay sons and one of the faces in a new advertising campaign aimed at softening religious opposition in the Deep South to equal rights for GLBT people. The advertisements, which will begin airing in Jackson, are the brainchild of the Human Rights Campaign, and will be used in conjunction with direct-mail messages and phone-bank operations as well. Kennedy, 61, said that she was worried at first about coming out so publicly on such a sensitive topic, but said that her faith eventually led her to see that it was more important to spread love, kindness, and caring instead of hiding behind her own fears.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM ROME:

### Pope Francis Demotes Anti-Gay Bishop

MSNBC reports that the highest-ranking American at the Vatican was demoted this weekend, after weeks of vocally criticizing Pope Francis' liberal leadership of the Catholic Church. Cardinal Raymond Burke, 66, has been very displeased with the more liberal trend that the Church has been taking under Francis' lead, especially in regards to homosexuality, stating that "the pope is not free to change the church's teachings with regard to the immorality of homosexual acts or the insolubility of marriage or any other doctrine of faith." Burke was removed from his position on the church's highest court and reassigned to the post of chaplain of the Knights of Malta, a Vatican charity group, where he will have almost no responsibilities.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM LATVIA:

### Latvia's Foreign Minister Comes Out As Gay

*The Guardian* reports that the Latvian foreign minister, Edgars Rinkevics, has become the first high-ranking politician in his country and the Baltic states to come out publicly as gay. Rinkevics tweeted on Thursday, "I proudly announce I am gay … Good luck to all of you." This tweet followed one that he made in Latvian which stated: "Our country must create a legal framework for all types of partnerships, I will fight for it, I know that there will immediately be mega-hysteria but #Proudtobegay." The tweet quickly went viral, and will likely cause much contention in the small Baltic country where homosexuality is widely opposed.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM IRAN:

### The Gay People Pushed To Change Their Gender

The BBC reports that Iran is one of a handful of countries where homosexual acts are punishable by death, but clerics do, however, accept the idea that a person may be trapped in a body of the wrong sex. Because of this, many homosexuals are pressured by both the medical and religious communities to have gender reassignment surgery to "fix" them, leading many to flee the country in order to avoid it. While supporters see this as being a way of helping gay and lesbian Iranians lead fulfilling lives by putting them into the 'correct' body, many more see it as being a problem in which homosexuals are being offered gender reassignment surgery when they are not actually transgender.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM IRELAND:

### Irish Ad Looks To Inspire Youth To Say 'Yes' To Marriage Equality

Advocate.com reports that a moving new video encourages young voters in Ireland to register by November 25 in order to vote in support of equality in next May's referendum on civil marriage for same-sex couples. The heavily Catholic country has been moving steadily towards GLBT equality since the 1993 decision to decriminalize homosexuality, and civil unions were legally recognized for same-sex couples in 2011. To help secure victory for marriage equality in the 2015 May referendum, equality advocates are making moves to get the younger generation to the polls, as evidenced by the inspiring new advertisement titled "It's In Your Hands! Register to vote for Civil Marriage Equality" which says that young people can have a pivotal role in changing their country and making history.

BIGGAYNEWS FROM FRANCE:

### Sarkozy Places Scrapping of France's Gay Marriage Laws at Centre of Bid to Be Re-elected As Country's President

The *Daily Mail* reports that Nicolas Sarkozy has placed the scrapping of France's gay marriage laws at the center of his bid to be re-elected as the country's President. 59-year-old Sarkozy said he would 'repeal' laws allowing same-sex unions, despite his third wife being a huge support of gays marrying. ■

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# Pie in the Sky

A few weeks ago, I was walking down a fancy suburban street when I was accosted by an eighth-grader pushing pies. She was a cute kid who was holding an order form and wearing an aggressive smile.

"I'm selling pies for a school fundraiser," she said like a threat. "I need to sell one more to win a prize."

"Where are they?" I asked, craning my neck. I saw no pie wagon in the near distance.

"We deliver them to you," she said, as if this was a minor detail.

"Where? Here on the street?" I asked. "When? Now? Because I'd really like a pie right now."

"I don't have the details. Just know that we'll get you your pie." With that, she thrust the order form at me, and I was immediately transfixed with pictures of many delicious pies.

I love pies. Once, I planned an entire weekend in Osseo, Wisconsin just so I could have several meals at the Norske Nook, a little diner that has the best pies in the world. And this was during my dating years when I was very concerned about my shapeliness. I always considered it a testament to my character that I placed pies above my love life.

As I salivated over the order form, trying to intuit the best pie to select, the sales girl and I had a very confusing conversation—mainly about delivery logistics and whether the pies really would taste as delicious as they appeared in the pictures—but I'll skip the details, because this kid clearly had no real answers to my demanding questions. She just wanted to sell her last pie, and then go home and tell her parents about the lunatic she met in the street who was obsessed with pies.

Anyway, I gave her $20 for a coconut cream pie that cost only $12, but she claimed she didn't have any change—a claim I found suspect given the heft of the money envelope she was carrying. I weighed the consequences. Should I take the $20 back and suffer weeks of terrible regret over not getting a pie, or should I give this little con artist an extra $8 and get my pie…eventually…maybe.

"Are you sure the delivery guy will find me? I'm worried because you said that writing my address on the order form isn't necessary." I asked nervously as I gave her the $20 bill.

"Oh, they'll find you!" she said, trying to tug the bill out of my hand. "These pie people are very professional. They'll track you down, or you can stop by the school or something…."

"Are the pies actually at your school?" I asked, my eyes widening. The child looked frightened by the sudden darkening of my pupils. I tried to take a more casual tone, but it sounded shrill, like the voice of a distressed squirrel. "I could just swing by your school. And take a look at the selection. No big deal."

"Umm, yeah," she said, slowly backing away from me. "I don't think the pies are there, but maybe you should go talk to an adult."

It's been over two weeks since I ordered that pie. Yesterday, I was standing at the window, gloomily staring out at the street where I met the pie girl.

"You're in a pensive mood," my girlfriend said. "What are you thinking about?"

"Oh, just about a girl that broke my heart," I said.

"You're thinking about that stupid pie, aren't you?" she said. "Forget about it. It's never going to come." ■

*Gang: you're welcome to visit with me on Facebook and Twitter. You'll find me under my true identity—jenniferparello—on both sites.*

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